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Wednesday, May 30, 2012

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"We know that families across Canada are clearing out their clutter and getting organized with spring cleaning," said Tony Shumpert, Vice President of Recycling Operations for Value Village. "By donating these items, instead of simply throwing them away, you can give back to your community and save quality goods from polluting the Earth. In fact, Value Village operates one of the largest recycling programs in the world, saving more than 600 million pounds of goods from landfills last year alone."

DID YOU KNOW? Shopping thrift is a great way to snag fashionable clothing and one-of-a-kind accessories, collectables, books and household items for a bargain. Value Village purchases its merchandise from more than 60 nonprofit offices across Canada, which allows each store to stock nearly 100,000 items on its sales floor each and every day! So the selection is ever-changing and always fresh!

So how does it work? Every Value Village location partners with a charitable organization in its community, including Alberta Association for Community Living, Canadian Diabetes Association and Cerebral Palsy Association in Alberta. All year round, each store pays its nonprofit partner for every donated item, including clothing, housewares, books and more. Over the past 10 years, Value Village has purchased more than $1.5 billion of goods from its partners – turning otherwise unused items into sustainable funding that supports the nonprofit's vital community programs and services.

The highest-quality items are priced at a great value and displayed on Value Village's sales floors for purchase, while merchandise not suitable for resale is responsibly recycled.

Residents with clothing or household goods to donate can call participating nonprofits for a home pickup or drop off their items at convenient Community Donation Centres located at every Value Village store.

For more information on Value Village's nonprofit partnerships and recycling efforts, or to find a Community Donation Centre near you, visit **valuevillage.com**.

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Help the community and planet Earth by donating your reusable clothing and household items at the Community Donation Centre located at Value Village. Value Village pays local nonprofits every time you donate. Plus you'll be helping to keep reusable items from ending up in landfills. So you can feel great when you donate!

SUPPORT:

Canadian Diabetes Association

Cerebral Palsy Association in Alberta

Alberta Association for Community Living

DONATE AT:

Value Village

Foot delivered to Tory HQ

After a severed human foot is delivered to Conservative Party headquarters in Ottawa, another body part is discovered in another package PAGE 10

THE AGE OF CHANGE

OLD AND VERY YOUNG JUST KEEP ON COMING: CENSUS 2011 PAGES 20-21

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Family found dead in ditch

Hayley Wourms, son Cayden and husband Darren are seen in this undated Facebook photo. All three were found dead in a Saskatchewan ditch Monday.
FACEBOOK.COM

Airdrie family history.

Father was taken to hospital for psychiatric evaluation last month

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Three Airdrie residents — a husband, wife and their two-year-old son — were found dead in a northern Saskatchewan ditch in an apparent murder-suicide, RCMP revealed Tuesday.

The bodies of Darren Wourms, 26, wife Hayley Wourms, 23, and son Cayden were spotted by a passing motorist next to a dirt road close to St. Walburg, Sask., on Monday afternoon.

The family's Buick Century and a .22-calibre rifle were also found at the scene.

"This is not a normal occurrence," said RCMP Sgt. Paul Dawson.

"This is obviously a very traumatic case.... We are taking this very seriously."

Airdrie RCMP revealed later in the day they had responded to call in that city involving concerns for the Wourms' well-being in late April.

Darren Wourms was taken to a Calgary hospital for a psychiatric evaluation at that point but the family's "ongoing struggles" did not warrant criminal charges, according to a release. Family and friends in Saskatchewan struggled with their loss Tuesday, with many wondering how a seemingly loving family could be involved in such tragedy.

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 3

Follow Jeremy Nolais on Twitter @Metro_Nolais

Tragedy

"This is obviously a very traumatic case.... We are taking this very seriously."

RCMP Sgt. Paul Dawson

Premiers are one on energy

Western premiers, minus B.C., agree to work together to create a national energy strategy PAGE 9

Back to Syria for diplomats

Canada joins allies in expelling Syrian diplomats after massacre in Houla PAGE 10

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Prevention

Police power limited in mental-health assessment

If a crime hasn't been committed, police interaction with a person struggling through mental-health problems is often short-lived, says a Calgary advocate.

Callum Ross, a co-ordinator with the Canadian Mental Health Association, said law enforcement does have the ability to seize and transfer an individual to hospital if they receive a call for assistance.

Airdrie RCMP revealed Tuesday they had transferred local resident Darren Wourms to hospital for psychiatric evaluation after receiving a third-party 911 call in late April.

Wourms, his wife Hayley and son Cayden were found in a Saskatchewan ditch Monday in an apparent murder-suicide. RCMP have not confirmed details about their deaths, but said they are not searching for any suspects.

Ross said when police transfer a non-criminal patient to hospital they are greeted by at least one, preferably two, psychiatrists who take over responsibility for the individual.

"Essentially they do have a tick sheet they go through and ask questions," he said.

From there, it can be recommended the patient remain in hospital for 24 hours before a re-evaluation. After a second screening, they are given the ability to keep the patient for up to seven days without reassessment; however, Ross said, there are numerous opportunities to appeal such a decision.

"People go through periods of psychosis," he said. "Many people are only in hospital for a short period of time."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Cayden Wourms, 2, a victim in an apparent murder-suicide, was already very active at his young age, according to family and friends. FACEBOOK

'Beautiful family' lost in tragedy

Grief. Mother of man at centre of apparent murder-suicide struggles to understand what happened

TESSA CLAYTON
AND JEREMY NOLAIS
calgary@metronews.ca

Two-year-old Cayden Wourms never stopped smiling. His mother, Hayley Wourms had a bright and bubbly personality.

Darren Wourms loved his family very much and worked hard to provide for them.

"They were a beautiful family," said Darren's mother, Shirley Wourms. "This is really hard on everybody."

Family and friends gathered late Monday to pray and comfort one another as they struggled to comprehend how life unravelled so quickly for their loved ones, who only just recently had moved from Calgary to a newly built home in Airdrie.

Pastor Richard Doll had counselled the family prior to their marriage and presided over the formal ceremony.

"We don't know, we don't know who or how," he said.

The pastor described Darren as being more quiet and reserved, while Hayley drew people to her with her bubbly personality.

Cayden was already adventurous at his young age despite struggling with some illness, Shirley Wourms said.

Both Darren and Hayley were well educated; he was working shifts as a civil engineer in Fort McMurray. The trio often paid visits to family in Darren's hometown, St. Walburg.

Word of the deaths circled quickly through the town of no more than 800 Tuesday, with many residents expressing their condolences.

Mayor Tony Lesson struggled to find any other tragedy in the town's history that compared.

"We count ourselves as a nice, safe, quiet town," he said. "And that's what we are."

WITH FILES FROM CELESTE DE MUELENAERE

The aftermath

- Funeral arrangements have yet to be made for the Wourms. Family members were waiting for an autopsy report from a coroner's office Tuesday afternoon.
- Members of the police major crimes unit in Saskatoon were immediately called in to assist in the investigation Monday.
- RCMP spokesperson Paul Dawson said counselling would be offered to all law enforcement members involved in the tragic incident.

1 NEWS

On the web

Dark Knight under the sea

The underwater world has its very own Batman. It carries the shape of the Batman symbol comic fans know all too well, and it's baffling scientists. Watch this and other bizarre aquatic phenomena at metronews.ca.

Mobile news

Many Canadian kids are failing to make the grade when it comes to reaching physical-activity targets, with too few hours devoted to active play and too much free time looking at TV and computer screens. Scan the code to read more.

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Crime. Alleged shooter worked as funeral director

Dustin Goddu had worked at Red Deer's Parkland Funeral Home and Crematorium for seven years and never caused a stir.

One Monday, RCMP say he drove his truck up alongside Stettler mother Krista Dryden and demanded she climb inside.

When Dryden refused, Goddu shot her in the shoulder and drove off, say police. He took his own life in a wooded area near the central Alberta town as RCMP closed in.

Staff at the Red Deer funeral home were struggling to comprehend what could have led their beloved co-worker to do such a thing.

"All I can say is Dustin was a great employee," said boss Gord Mathers. "He was probably the most kind, caring, compassionate person I met."

Mathers last saw Goddu on Friday and said he appeared to be doing fine.

In Calgary, meanwhile, family members remained at Dryden's bedside as she recovered from the terrifying incident.

"It looks like she's going to pull through," said mother Irene Dryden. "Thank God, it could have been a lot worse."

Krista has four children and teaches First Aid in the Stettler community. She had just dropped off a ride-on lawn mower for repairs at a southeast shop when Goddu pulled up.

After the shot rang out, a number of community members rushed to the injured mother's side.

"Thank you so much," Irene Dryden said to those people. "We are so appreciative of them."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Stettler shooting victim Krista Dryden. FACEBOOK

Calgary taxi customers will be able to post reviews to Calgary.ca by early next year, according to city officials. KATIE TURNER/METRO

Reviews to be added to new taxi rules

New data. GPS information will be made available to city for tracking taxis

KATIE TURNER
katie.turner@metronews.ca

Taxi users will soon have a way to post their experiences of Calgary cab companies online as part of a series of industry changes approved by city council Monday.

Quoted

"I believe in opening up the system because that's how you improve it."

Mayor Naheed Nenshi

In addition to approving 55 taxis, council adopted a number of new regulations to ensure drivers are serving the entire city at various times throughout the day.

The city's manager of compliance services Marc Halat said they are opening the door for customers to review the system as well by posting comments and complaints to Calgary.ca by January 2013.

"It will be about telling people who's on time, who's delivering the service that we're looking for. That's the type of thing we want to provide online for consumers," said Halat.

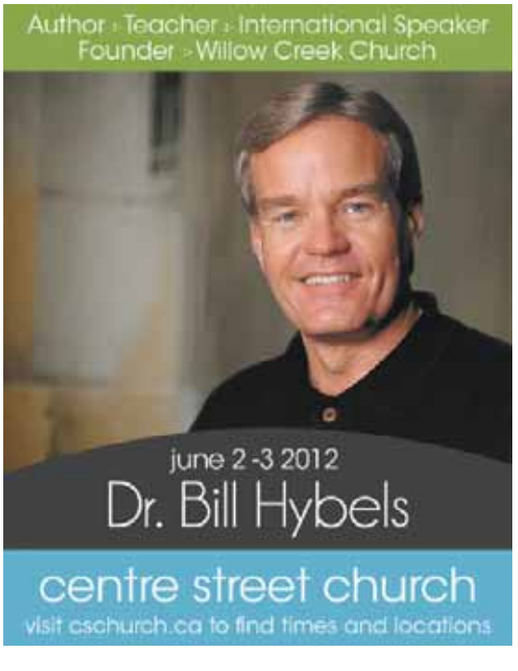
While some in the taxi industry have publicly stated the new regulations are too heavy-handed, Mayor Naheed Nenshi said the intent is to improve service all around.

"I believe in opening up the system because that's how you improve it."

Kurt Enders with Checkers Yellow Cabs said industry representatives were still mulling over the new requirements passed by city council and declined comment.

WITH FILES FROM JEREMY NOLAIS

Follow Katie Turner on Twitter @Metro_Katie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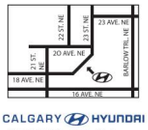

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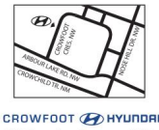

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This utility box on the corner of Spiller Road and Macleod Trail showcases one of the Western-themed paintings the city is using to combat graffiti. TESSA CLAYTON/FOR METRO

Outside the box: City gets artists to help fight graffiti

Local colour. Attempt to prevent tagging sees Western-themed art painted on city utility boxes

TESSA CLAYTON
calgary@metronews.ca

City officials have come up with an interesting way to tackle Calgary's graffiti issue — allowing local artists to paint utility boxes in targeted areas.

"It started off as an attempt to reduce graffiti vandalism on one of the most graffitied assets the city has, those great big boxes on the street corners," said Peter Bushe, who oversees the project.

The initiative began as a pilot project along 16th Avenue North in 2010, said Bushe. "We had like a 90 per cent reduction in graffiti," he added about the first boxes painted along 16th Avenue.

Last year, they filled in the streetlight control boxes on 16th Avenue from 10th Street Northwest to 6th Street Northeast and expanded to Marda Loop and Kensington.

This year, the project is specifically targeting seven boxes around Stampede Park with a western theme.

Quoted

"We had like a 90 per cent reduction in graffiti."

Peter Bushe, official who oversees anti-graffiti public-art initiative

Bylaw director Bill Bruce said his department did a similar initiative about 10 years ago, and other cities in Canada have similar projects. "It worked effectively, typically people will not tag over someone else's work," he said.

The public is behind the project, according to Bushe, and they hope to paint anywhere between 30 to 40 boxes a year.

Seizures. More police power could backfire: Group

Word that Alberta's transportation minister is exploring granting police power to seize vehicles of people accused of driving at excessive speeds is drawing criticism from civil-rights advocates.

Those same individuals have already raised similar concerns about seemingly imminent changes to provincial impaired-driving legislation, which would allow police to suspend the licence of anyone who provides a blood-alcohol reading over .08 until the matter is resolved in court.

"The onus seems to be becoming more about proving you're innocent, when it should be the other way around," said Linda McKay Panos, executive director of The Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre.

Transportation Minister Ric McIver said in a article published over the weekend that excessive-speed measure could help alleviate safety concerns on some of Alberta's deadliest roads, including Highway 63 between Edmonton and Fort McMurray, which has become a hot topic of debate following a fatal collision in April.

Transportation spokesperson Donna Babchishin noted police already have the power to automatically seize vehicles in a number of other criminal circumstances. "If it's a Criminal Code offence, for example, some people are incarcerated until the charges are resolved as a matter of public safety," she said.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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Auction. Ready to donate your time, Calgary?

On June 14, Calgarians will get to experience a charity art auction with a twist.

Timeraiser is once again hosting its annual auction that requires bidders to bid volunteer hours rather than cash on 25 different artworks from local and emerging artists that were purchased at fair market price for the event.

Volunteers attending will get to enjoy some food, music and drinks throughout the night while networking with the 28 to 30 organizations that they will be bidding their volunteer hours towards.

Co-chair of Timeraiser Stewart McDonough said the event is all about "skilled volunteerism."

"It's about how to engage your skill set into a volunteer organization."

McDonough recommends attendees shortlist the organizations they are most interested in to ensure a successful volunteer experience.

CELESTE DE MUELENAERE/FOR METRO

Event information

The 7th Calgary Timeraiser will take place at Flames Central on June 14 and will be hosted by recognizable locals, Roger Kincaid from X92.9 and Jill Belland from Citytv.

- For more information about Timeraiser, visit timeraiser.ca/calgary.html.

On the rise. Calgary's young population brings challenges: Nenshi

With the number of young people on the rise in Calgary comes a series of opportunities and challenges, said Mayor Naheed Nenshi.

According to census data released from Statistics Canada Tuesday, children make up 18.3 per cent of Calgary's population. With kids, said Nenshi, come parents.

"In many ways we're extremely fortunate," said Nenshi, pointing to large numbers of young workers. "But it also comes with a series of challenges."

Nenshi said this census data highlights the need for continued investments in city amenities.

"It also means that the kinds (of) investments we're making in things that are for children like our rec centres, like parks and green space, become even more important." KATIE TURNER/METRO

MORE ON THE CENSUS, PAGES 20-21

Quoted

"In many ways we're extremely fortunate.... But it also comes with a series of challenges."

Mayor Naheed Nenshi

Given higher limits on the value on goods Canadians can bring back, duty-free, from the U.S., more people could be seeking bargains down south. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cross-border shopping about to get easier

U.S. travel. Significant increase in personal-exemption amounts for returning Canadians

TESSA CLAYTON
calgary@metronews.ca

Canadian cross-border shoppers rejoice — on Friday, increased personal exemptions kick in for Canadians travelling abroad.

The exemptions relate to all entry points back into Canada and encompasses all goods purchased, said Canada Border Services Agency spokesperson Lisa White.

White said cross-border trips from airports and land crossings in Alberta to the United States have increased since 2007, when the loonie started to hover around par with the American dollar.

She said at the airport they see lots of people heading to popular U.S. destinations like Las Vegas — and many of them are going shopping.

But what's great news for travellers will hurt local retailers, according to the Retail Council of Canada.

"We know that our members, particularly those in border communities, are struggling to survive the cross-border-shopping phenomenon as it is right now," said Sally Ritchie, vice-president of communications. "The exemptions on personal limits are salt in the wound to them."

Canadian retailers want a level playing field so they can compete with their American counterparts, said Ritchie, including things like getting rid of import duties and vendor pricing.

New exemptions

- Exemptions to alcohol and tobacco have not changed.
- Under the new exemptions, after 24 hours or more a return traveller can bring back up to $200 duty-free; after 48 hours or more that amount jumps to $800.

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Western premiers endorse energy strategy

Leaders conference. Plan would see provinces and feds work together to expand markets for Canada's energy

Premier Alison Redford has received the support of her western colleagues for a national energy strategy.

The premiers, minus B.C.'s Christy Clark, met in Edmonton on Tuesday and emerged supporting the idea.

The specifics from Redford have been scant so far, but the premise is to create a framework for all regions to work as one to develop, market and protect Canada's energy resources.

Redford admitted there aren't a lot of details about what the strategy would look like, but she said that's appropriate since talks began only last fall when she won the provincial Tory leadership.

"What I hope this becomes is part of a living process in Canada," she said. "I don't think it would be appropriate today for me to be able to stand here and say we have a definitive strategy or plan that we expect everyone to be buying into."

She said she expects the topic will be on the agenda at the first-ministers meeting in July.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall said regardless of what it achieves, the national strategy would be a success.

"If all that is achieved is a better understanding by all Canadians of the huge energy potential of this country, the fact we are a global energy power and that it's something we ought to be proud of while recognizing we need to do more in terms of sustainability ... it would be worthwhile in its pursuit," he said.

Manitoba's Greg Selinger said it only makes sense to work together. "We think by working together we actually can improve our ability to have sustainable energy regardless of the source across the provinces," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Awaiting details

- Prime Minister Stephen Harper has expressed some skepticism about Redford's idea, given how national energy programs have hurt Alberta in the past, but Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver backed the idea in principle when he was in the province last week.
- Critics, including the opposition Wildrose party, say it's time for Redford to get down to specifics so other regions know what it is they're being asked to join.

Premier Alison Redford speaks in Edmonton on Tuesday at a conference with Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger, left, B.C. Jobs Minister Patrick Bell, right, Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall and Northwest Territories Premier Bob McLeod. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Global pariah. Canada expels Syrian diplomats over Houla massacre

Canada joined allies across the world Tuesday in expelling Syrian diplomats, as the slaughter of the innocent in Houla provoked a broad severing of global ties with the pariah Assad regime in Damascus.

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird said Canada was expelling Syrian diplomats in the wake of the weekend massacre in Houla. The United Nations said 108 people died in the massacre, including 49 children and 34 women — one of the deadliest events in the 15-month uprising against Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime.

Canada took part in a coordinated diplomatic offensive along with the United States, Britain, Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Bulgaria and the Netherlands as the UN revealed more gruesome details of the events in Houla. Apparently the massacre included the close-range shootings of scores of children and parents in their homes.

The report did not specify who carried out most of the killings.

The Syrian embassy in downtown Ottawa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baird said all remaining diplomats in Ottawa and their families have five days to leave Canada. As is the case in several other countries, Syria's ranking diplomat is a charge d'affairs, not an ambassador.

As well, another Syrian diplomat waiting to come to Canada will be refused entry.

Baird said Canadians, like other people around the world, were horrified to learn on the weekend about the massacre, including nearly three dozen children under the age of 10.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Severed foot sent to Conservative Party headquarters

Grisly discovery. Police intercept another package containing a second body part hours later

Ottawa police say a second package containing a body part was found just hours after a stunned Conservative party receptionist opened a blood-soaked box containing a human foot.

The first was found Tuesday morning in a package that had been delivered to the party's headquarters a few scant blocks from Parliament Hill.

As a result of further investigation, Ottawa police said Tuesday night that they intercepted a second suspicious package containing another human body part.

Police released no other details about the second find, and said the major crime section continues to investigate.

Police remove a package containing a human foot from the Conservative Party headquarters in Ottawa on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tuesday morning's macabre discovery led to a pre-noon call to police and paramedics about a suspicious package.

Ottawa police were consulting with their counterparts in Montreal after they discovered a severed torso in a suitcase.

Authorities in both cities are trying to determine if there might be a link to the foot mailed to Conservative party headquarters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

New evidence

Video prompts review of shooting

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team will review a newly released bystander's video of Paul Boyd's fatal confrontation with police in August 2007, the Vancouver police and the B.C. government announced Tuesday.

A video taken by a Winnipeg tourist appears to show Boyd was no longer holding a bike chain when he was shot and killed, contradicting police testimony.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Weather woes

Freak rainstorm floods Montreal

A wall of rain collapsed onto Montreal in one torrential instant that flooded city streets, closed subway stations, caused power failures, damaged private property and forced evacuations from public buildings Tuesday.

More than 28,000 people lost electricity in Quebec, with more than half those disruptions occurring in the province's biggest city.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

How to restore the voters' shattered trust

Election chiefs' top priority. Robocall scandal may spark legislative changes to curb call centres, chief officer says

Restoring trust in the integrity of the electoral system is a top priority for Elections Canada.

The watchdog agency aims to repair damage inflicted by the robocall scandal and irregularities that caused the election in one Toronto riding to be overturned.

Chief electoral officer Marc Mayrand said Tuesday the agency is reviewing its procedures.

It may yet recommend legislative changes.

Among the possible solutions, he said, are regulating the manner in which automated and live call centres are used to contact voters and ensuring exorbitant legal costs don't prevent individuals from challenging dubious election results.

The investigation into complaints of robocalls during last spring's election is continuing.

But, regardless of its outcome, Mayrand said the agency intends to recommend improvements to the Canada Elections Act to deal with the use of new technologies.

Mayrand said Elections Canada is also moving to address problems exposed by a recent court ruling that overturned the result in Toronto's Etobicoke Centre.

Judge Thomas Lederer set aside 79 ballots due to clerical errors, primarily involving improperly filled-out voter registration and vouching certificates, some of which have disappeared altogether.

The Conservatives, who won the riding by just 26 votes, are appealing the ruling to the Supreme Court.

Mayrand said voters should take consolation from the fact the judge found problems in Etobicoke were the result of "an unacceptable number of clerical errors" by well-meaning, local officials, not corruption or fraud.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flurry of complaints

1,100

In the robocall case, Mayrand told a House of Commons committee that Elections Canada has now received 1,100 complaints from voters who say they received harassing or misleading phone calls directing them to phoney polling stations during last spring's election.

By thunder, that's a rainstorm

Talk about water, water everywhere.... Thunder Bay got more than its share this week. Heavy rains and flooding forced the city to declare a state of emergency as homes were flooded and sewer systems worked at full capacity. Here, city workers Steve Alexander and Silvio Pratola clear debris from a storm drain.

BRENT LINTON/THUNDER BAY CHRONICLE-JOURNAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soaring toll

70,000 seals killed in this year's hunt

The fisheries minister of Newfoundland and Labrador says 70,000 harp seals have been killed during this year's seal hunt.

That's nearly twice the number killed last year.

Darin King told the provincial legislature that 680 sealers took part in this year's hunt, which had an allowable catch of 400,000.

About 38,000 harp seals were killed last year.

King says he thinks the higher catch level reflects an opening of markets in Asia, an argument animal-rights groups contest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Candidate cashing in on resentment of rival

Egypt. Old regime dealing with angry protesters in presidential runoff

The Muslim Brotherhood's candidate for the Egyptian presidential runoff promised Tuesday he would break sharply with the ways of ousted autocrat Hosni Mubarak, a day after angry protesters burned down the headquarters of his challenger who served as prime minister in the old regime.

Islamist Mohammed Morsi appeared to be trying to cash in on public resentment of his rival Ahmed Shafiq's ties to Mubarak at a news conference where he offered something for everyone, from the military to the revolutionaries, women and minority Christians. Morsi has been scrambling to broaden his base of support ahead of the June 16-17 runoff.

"When I am president, the presidency will not be reduced to one person," he said. "The age of superman has failed and gone. The world is no longer like that. I am not like that."

Morsi's comments came hours after some 400 protesters chanting slogans against Shafiq stormed and vandalized his Cairo campaign headquarters. The protesters set the building ablaze after making away with computers, television sets and air conditioners.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"More than anyone else, the Brotherhood makes promises it never keeps."

Girgis Atef, a veteran of the uprising that toppled Mubarak 15 months ago

The revolutionary youth of Egypt returned to Tahrir Square to protest the outcome of the Egyptian presidential election in Cairo on Monday.

FREDRIK PERSSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Myanmar

Longtime political prisoner resumes travels

In a sign of how much life in Myanmar has changed, a democracy activist and longtime political prisoner is resuming her world travels.

Aung San Suu Kyi had either been under house arrest or too fearful that if she left Myanmar during the last 24 years, the government would never let her return. On Tuesday night, however, she arrived in neighbouring Thailand.

With the installation of an elected government last year, and her party's own entrance into parliament this year, she feels she has the freedom to explore the world. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

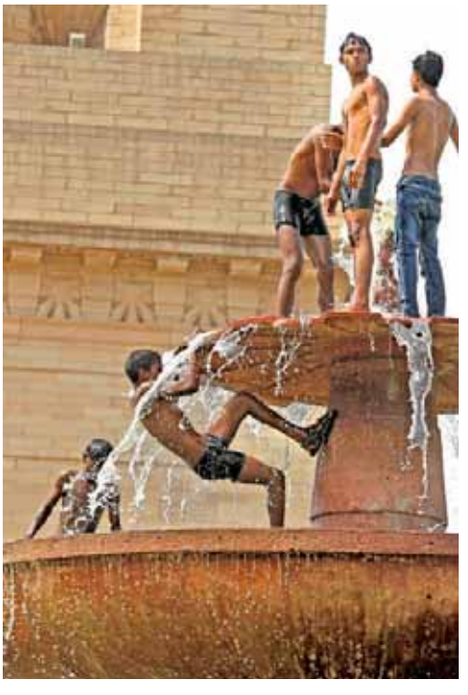
Leaked documents

Not just stolen letters, but people speaking to God

The Vatican on Tuesday sought to put the widening scandal over leaked documents into a very different light, saying the stolen papers didn't just concern matters of internal church governance but represented the thoughts of people who in writing to the pope believed they were essentially speaking before God.

As a result, Pope Benedict XVI feels particularly pained over the leaks and wants to heal the breach and re-establish a sense of trust among the faithful, according to the Vatican's undersecretary of state, Archbishop Angelo Becciu.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Fountain of youth

Children cool off in a fountain near the India Gate monument in New Delhi on Tuesday. The temperature in the Indian capital was around 43 C.

MANISH SWARUP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FROM	FROM	FROM	FROM	FROM	FROM
$79 + $50 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$109 + $58 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$129 + $59 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$189 + $67 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$199 + $68 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$239 + $70 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES
$129	$167	$188	$256	$267	$309

USA: ONE-WAY

sample all-in prices from Calgary for travel as indicated below.

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JUNE 13, 2012 – SEPT. 3, 2012	JUNE 13, 2012 – SEPT. 3, 2012	JUNE 13, 2012 – SEPT. 3, 2012
FROM	FROM	FROM
$147 + $116 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$219 + $99 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$266 + $101 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES
$263	$318	$367

SUN: ONE-WAY

sample all-in prices from Calgary for travel as indicated below.

NASSAU	BARBADOS	MEXICO CITY
MAY 29, 2012 – SEPT. 3, 2012	MAY 29, 2012 – SEPT. 3, 2012	MAY 29, 2012 – SEPT. 3, 2012
FROM	FROM	FROM
$289 + $84 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$329 + $86 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES	$229 + $196 TAXES, FEES & SURCHARGES
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Presidential race. Obama campaign plays Trump card over 'birther' issue

U.S. President Barack Obama
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Trump, the celebrity business tycoon once dismissed as a "carnival barker" by Barack Obama, went on a full-fledged tear in the media on Tuesday, doubling down on his insistence that America's first black president was born in Kenya.

On the day he was to appear alongside Mitt Romney at a Las Vegas fundraiser for the Republican presumptive nominee, Trump belligerently defended himself against accusations he had lost his grip and was hurting the man who hopes to replace Obama in the Oval Office in November.

"I walk down the street and people are screaming: 'Please don't give that up,'" Trump told CNBC in response to a new Obama ad that maligns Romney for failing to distance himself from the real estate mogul's resurrected conspiracy theories about the president's birthplace.

When Trump flirted with his own run for the Republican nomination last year, he put the so-called birther issue in the national spotlight.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennessee. Ruling halts construction of mosque over lack of public notice

Construction of a Tennessee mosque that has been strongly opposed by critics of Islam likely will be stopped after a judge ruled Tuesday that local officials didn't give the public adequate notice before the meeting where it was approved.

The mosque was one of several Muslim projects in the U.S. that hit a swell of conservative opposition a year or two ago during the controversy over a plan to build a Muslim community centre near the site of the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City.

Chancellor Robert Corlew found that the Rutherford County Planning Commission didn't do enough to inform the public of the May 2010 meeting when it approved the site plan for the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro.

Though his ruling voids the approval, he noted there was nothing stopping the commission from reconsidering the issue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Qatar begins probe into deadly mall fire

Fatal blaze. Press, public outraged at lack of adequate safety measures that failed to prevent tragedy at daycare centre

Children leave flowers during a memorial close to the scene where 19 people perished in a massive fire that tore through a nursery at a Qatar shopping mall in Doha, Qatar, on Tuesday. OSAMA FAISAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Investigators in Qatar carried out their first extensive probes through a fire-ravaged daycare centre and other charred areas inside the country's biggest mall Tuesday after a blaze killed 19 people, 13 of them children.

The blaze and equipment failures that hampered firefighting raised questions about safety measures in the megastructures across the wealthy Gulf.

The findings from the state-ordered inquest are expected within a week, the official Qatar News Agency said. Commentators quickly called for extensive safety reviews after the sprinkler system malfunctioned during Monday's fire.

The tragedy also is likely to push authorities across the Gulf to further examine fire-safety rules in a region where the drive to build fast and big has brought concerns about the quality of emergency planning.

Rescue crews in Qatar's capital Doha had to hack through the roof of the mammoth Villaggio mall to reach the child-care facility, where the victims included two-year-old New Zealand triplets and three Spanish siblings. Two firefighters also were killed.

An editorial in the newspaper Al Arab urged officials around the Gulf to consider creating special firefighting and civil defence units for the energy-rich region's huge malls.

Qatar's Interior Ministry said the mall's sprinkler system malfunctioned, and rescue efforts were hampered by a lack of floor plans.

Other Gulf nations also have confronted concerns about whether public safety planning can keep pace with the rapid construction. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tragedy

"Lillie, Jackson and Willsher came into this world together and were the joy of our life. Tragically, they left together after only two short years."

A statement from the parents of the two-year-old New Zealand triplets who perished in the fire

Lives lost

More than three-quarters of Qatar's population of 1.8 million residents are foreign workers.

- The young victims include a three-year-old French child, four Spanish children, an 18-month-old South African toddler and the New Zealand triplets.
- Three nursery teachers from the Philippines died from smoke inhalation. A South African woman who worked at the centre also died.

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Student protest leader may face up to one year in prison

Quebec. Fellow student who filed court motion says complaint is not a vendetta

Could the most prominent figure in Quebec's protest movement face jail time for having encouraged students to keep schools shut?

Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois pleaded not guilty to a contempt-of-court charge Tuesday in a Quebec City courtroom and dismissed the idea that he should be imprisoned for his student activism. His opponents in the case said that's exactly what he deserves.

The charge stems from a court motion filed by Jean-Francois Morasse, who alleges Nadeau-Dubois encouraged students to ignore a court injunction that paved the way for Morasse to return to class at Universite Laval in Quebec City.

Anarchy?

"As a citizen you have to start worrying when people say, 'There's a court decision I don't like and I'm not respecting it.' That's where anarchy starts."

Maxime Roy Martel, lawyer

The contempt-of-court case focuses on remarks Nadeau-Dubois made on television on May 13. At the time, Nadeau-Dubois said it was legitimate for protesters to form picket lines to keep students who had obtained injunctions from getting to their classrooms.

Nadeau-Dubois is a co-spokesman for the CLASSE student group — the most radical of the province's three biggest student associations. He has been featured in international news reports and been described, arguably inaccurately, as a protest leader.

"Let's hope this isn't a political settling of accounts. That would be very unfortunate," Nadeau-Dubois told reporters at the courthouse.

"The vehemence with which the other party is talking about a prison sentence — well, let's just say it leads one to believe there's an element of frustration there."

The Quebec protests have lasted 15 weeks, during which nearly one-third of post-secondary students have remained away from the classrooms during a battle against tuition hikes. Most students remained in school, while some were ordered to return by court injunctions. Some of the more ardent protesters blocked attempts to reopen classrooms.

The student dispute has caused considerable unrest, including confrontations between police and protesters in the streets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Student leader Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois walks to court on Tuesday in Quebec City. CLEMENT ALLARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tuition hikes

Charest says it's time to 'turn page'

On the 107th day of a student conflict creating social tensions in Quebec, government officials are confirming that Premier Jean Charest finally sat down and met student leaders face to face.

Charest took part in a discussion with student leaders for more than 50 minutes late Monday, government officials confirmed Tuesday.

It was an abrupt change in approach for a premier who had repeatedly resisted opposition calls to get personally involved in talks with students — and who had even avoided shaking the hand of student leaders during a recent event at the legislature.

The apparent thaw came as the government and protest leaders returned to the negotiating table Monday after a nearly one-month hiatus. Charest characterized that meeting as a new stage in the dispute. He described the exchanges as respectful and courteous.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec. Police investigate possible double murder, suicide

Police are trying to piece together the events that led to what appears to be a double murder followed by a suicide near Montreal.

A man and a woman in their late 40s were found shot to death in a home in Drummondville on Monday evening.

The investigation then led police to the town of Asbestos, where there was a standoff with an armed man in his 60s. Police say he committed suicide as they negotiated with him.

"The investigation is ongoing and detectives will try to determine what transpired," said Const. Daniel Lacoursiere, a Montreal police spokesman.

Montreal police were called in to take over what had originally been a provincial police file. In Quebec, it is customary for another police force to investigate when someone dies or is hurt during a police intervention.

Provincial police were first dispatched to the Drummondville home after receiving 911 calls reporting gunshots.

The investigation quickly led police to Asbestos, east of their crime scene, where a 63-year-old man armed with a gun held police at bay in the parking lot of a bar.

"While negotiating with the individual, the man turned the gun on himself at about 2 a.m. and his death was confirmed by doctors at the hospital," said Montreal police Const. Simon Delorme.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Robots equipped with scissors, forceps crawling in patients

Medical advances.
Doctors say robots have potential to do things humans can't, such as test blood in the body

Imagine a tiny snake robot crawling through your body, helping a surgeon identify diseases and perform operations.

It's not science fiction. Scientists and doctors are using the creeping metallic tools to perform surgery on hearts, prostate cancer, and other diseased organs. The snakebots carry tiny cameras, scissors and forceps, and even more advanced sensors are in the works. For now, they're powered by tethers that humans control. But experts say the day is coming when some robots will roam the body on their own.

"It won't be very long before we have robots that are nanobots, meaning they will actually be inside the body without tethers," said Dr. Michael Argenziano, the chief of adult cardiac surgery at New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Columbia University Medical Center in New York.

Argenziano was involved with some of the first U.S. Food and Drug Administration clinical trials on robotic heart surgery more than 10 years ago. Now he says snake robots have become a commonly used tool that gives surgeons a whole new perspective.

"It's like the ability to have little hands inside the patients, as if the surgeon had been shrunken, and was working on the heart valve," he said.

Another expert at Carnegie Mellon stresses that there's still an enormous gap between humans and even the most high-tech robots. Manuela Velosa noted that robots have been built that excel at one or two tasks — but not at the variety of tasks humans perform without even thinking.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Snakebots'

- The size of surgical robots allows surgeons to operate with far less damage to the body, helping the patient heal faster. For example, instead of opening the entire chest up during heart surgery, a small incision is made, and the robot crawls inside to the proper spot.
- Dr. Ashutosh Tewari of Cornell University Medical Center has used robotic tools to perform thousands of prostate operations. He said the precision of the tiny robotic tool is vital not just to cutting out cancerous tumors, but to seeing exactly what nerves to leave intact.

Naval Academy graduates flying high

A formation of U.S. Navy Blue Angel fighter jets perform a flyover above graduating Midshipmen during the United States Naval Academy graduation and commissioning ceremonies in Annapolis, Md., Tuesday.

PATRICK SEMANSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ancestors in the open sea

Shipwreck find disproves theory

Greece's culture ministry says two Roman-era shipwrecks found in deep waters off the country's western coast disprove the accepted theory that ancient shipmasters stuck to coastal routes rather than risking the open sea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Name hard to swallow

Five Wives Vodka ruled in bad taste

Idaho liquor regulators say a Utah liquor named Five Wives Vodka is in bad taste and they won't stock bottles or take special orders at state-owned stores. It's from a distillery in Utah, where the Mormon church is based. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ash spews in Colombia

Volcano prompts evacuations

A light spewing of ash amid renewed rumblings in the Nevado del Ruiz volcano has prompted Colombian authorities to suspend operations at four regional airports and evacuate 500 people.

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Mass killer

Breivik's friends suspect he's gay

Is confessed Norwegian mass killer Anders Behring Breivik gay?

Former friends of Breivik say he often expressed feminine tendencies and led some to believe he may be gay.

Three of the 33-year-old's former friends told an Oslo court on Tuesday that five years before he massacred 77 people in July, he moved back to live with his mother and ended all social contacts.

The friends, who did not want to be named, gave testimony during Breivik's trial as the defendant watched.

Breivik killed 69 people in a shooting spree on Utoya island on July 22 after setting off a bomb in Oslo that claimed eight lives.

Since May 11, survivors have given detailed accounts of how Breivik's emotionless "killing machine" hunted people down on the island, shooting them one by one.

Breivik has admitted to the killings, but denies criminal guilt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Again! Just nine days later, new quake misery hits Italy

Terror strikes at 9 a.m. Factories, barns, warehouses crumple — woman found alive after lying 12 hours in rubble of apartment

A powerful earthquake dealt a second terrifying blow Tuesday to a quake-devastated region in northern Italy.

Just nine days after an earlier tremblor that killed seven people, Tuesday's quake killed at least 16 and left 200 injured.

The injured included a 65-year-old woman who was pulled out alive by rescuers after lying for 12 hours in the rubble of her apartment's kitchen in Cavezzo.

Firefighters told Sky TG24 TV that a piece of furniture, which had toppled over, saved her from being crushed by the wreckage.

She was taken to hospital.

Firefighters said she'd gone into the building to get some clothes.

Factories, warehouses, barns and churches collapsed as the ground shook.

The temblor shocked many of the thousands who have been living in tents or cars since the May 20 quake and created a whole new wave of homeless.

The area encompassing the cities of Modena, Mantua and Bologna is prized for its super car production — churning out Ferraris, Maseratis and Lamborghinis — its world-famous Parmesan cheese, and less well-known but critical to the economy: machinery companies.

In Mirandola, the church of San Francis crumbled, leaving only its facade standing. The main cathedral also collapsed.

In Concordia, the mayor had scheduled a town meeting to discuss the aftermath of the first quake.

Instead, Mayor Carlo Marchini confirmed the death of one person struck by falling debris.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rescue workers send dogs into the wreckage of a quake-hit factory in Medolla, northern Italy, on Tuesday, as they search for three workers reported missing. LUCA BRUNO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NATO says air strike killed No. 2 al-Qaida chief in Afghanistan

The U.S.-led NATO force in Afghanistan says it has killed al-Qaida's second-highest leader in the country.

Sakhr al-Taifi died in an airstrike in the eastern Kunar province, the force said Tuesday.

Al-Taifi — also known as Mushtaq and Nasim — was responsible for commanding foreign insurgents in Afghanistan and directing attacks against NATO and Afghan forces, officials said.

He frequently travelled between Afghanistan and Pakistan, carrying out commands from senior al-Qaida leadership and ferrying in weapons and fighters.

The airstrike that killed al-Taifi and another al-Qaida militant took place Sunday in Kunar's Watahpur district. A follow-up survey of the area determined that no civilians were harmed, officials said.

Safe haven?

Most of al-Qaida's senior leaders are now believed to be based in Pakistan.

- **Many senior al-Qaida commanders have died in American drone attacks in Pakistan's northwest tribal region.**
- **Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden was killed by U.S. commandos in the Pakistan town of Abbottabad last May.**

They declined to reveal the name of al-Qaida's top leader in Afghanistan "due to ongoing operations and security concerns."

Elsewhere in Afghanistan, two would-be suicide bombers riding in a vehicle packed with explosives in the eastern Nangarhar province were killed when the vehicle exploded prematurely.

Three others in the vehicle were severely wounded.

The explosion occurred on the main highway between Jalalabad city and Torkham, a town on the Pakistani border.

The U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan was carried out because Osama bin Laden used the country as his base to plan the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Six kids killed

Parents arrested over fatal U.K. fire

Police have arrested the parents of six children who died in a fire at their home, and say they are now murder suspects.

Derbyshire police say the fire broke out after fuel was poured through the front door mail slot.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police baffled

Face chewing shocks witness

A witness who saw a naked man chewing on the face of another naked man on a Miami highway ramp has revealed grisly details about the attack.

"The guy was … tearing him to pieces with his mouth," Larry Vega said.

"The guy just kept eating the other guy away, like, ripping his skin.''

Vega flagged down a police officer, who he said repeatedly ordered the man — identified as Rudy Eugene, 31 — to get off the victim. Eugene growled at the officer, Vega said.

Vega said the officer shot Eugene, who continued chewing the victim's face. The officer fired again, killing him. The victim is in critical condition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The old, the young and the age of change

Census. Toddlers bust a move, but the oldsters just keep on coming, and the implications are only beginning to sink in

Canada is becoming a nation of the aging and the very young.

New census data shows Canada now has a higher proportion of seniors than ever before — a development that has crept up on society with far-reaching implications for health, finance, policy and everyday family relationships.

At the same time, the latest tranche of 2011 census information shows a surprising 11 per cent resurgence of toddlers — a burst of growth in the under-five population that is a complete reversal of trend-lines a decade ago and is rejuvenating every region of the country.

"I wouldn't call it a baby boom, although I think we can call it a significant increase," Laurent Martel, a demography expert at Statistics Canada, said in an interview.

Generally, though, the census shows in great detail what most people already know intuitively: Canada is aging quickly as the baby boomers mature.

The population of over-65ers has surged to nearly five million over the past five years, growing 14.1 per cent since the last official count, Statistics Canada says.

That's more than double the 5.9-per-cent increase for the population as a whole.

It's a trend that's poised to take on momentum. That's because near-seniors — people aged 60 to 64 — grew faster than any other group. Their population soared 29.1 per cent over the past five years, a pattern that will persist as they move up the age ladder.

They are the oldest edge of the baby-boom generation that includes three out of 10 Canadians, and has so dramatically shaped Canada's landscape for decades.

Young people, on the other hand, are a stagnating generation — despite the torrent of toddlers. The under-15 cohort is barely expanding, having edged up just 0.5 per cent over the past five years.

Children under 15 make up just 16.7 per cent of the population now, while seniors are at a record high of 14.8 per cent, and growing.

In just four years, Canada will face what demographers have dubbed "the cross-over": The day when there are more seniors than children.

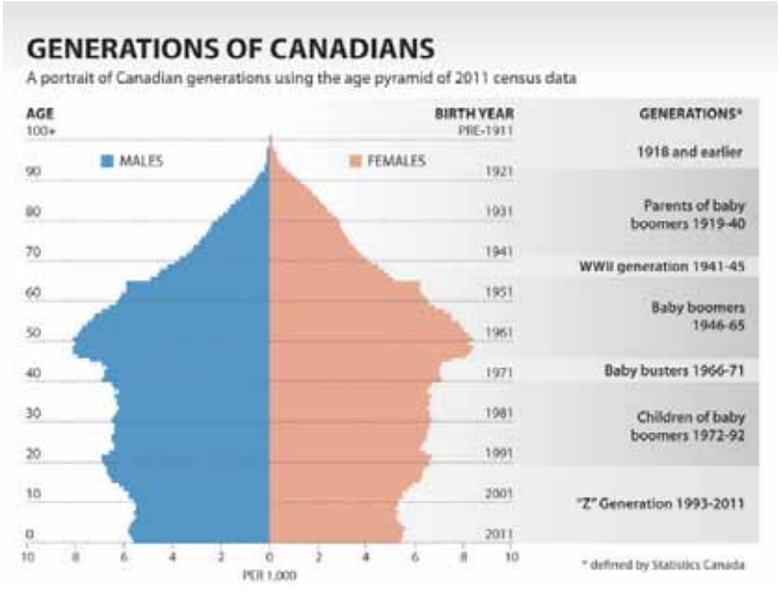
The median age in Canada is now 40.6, the oldest ever, up from 39.5 five years ago and from 33.5 two decades ago.

Canada's population aging is a mix of longer lives and a growing number of people in their senior years, Martel said.

In 2011, there were 4,870 women and 955 men aged 100 or more — the second-fastest growing age group with a 25.7-per-cent rate of expansion. By 2031, StatsCan projects the number of centenarians will reach 17,000, rising to close to 80,000 by 2061 as the bulk of the remaining baby boomers moves into the triple digits.

Compared to other G8 countries, Canada's population is relatively young, and the proportion of seniors in Canada is among the lowest in the G8.

That's about to change, Martel warned: Canada had a bigger baby boom than other countries, and as people retire in droves, Canada's aging trend will pick up speed. THE CANADIAN PRESS



By the numbers: Youngest vs. oldest communities

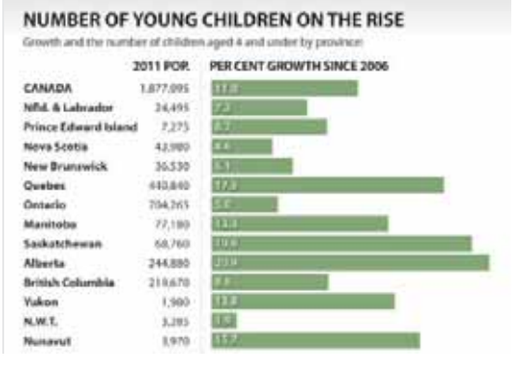
- **Top-5 youngest communities (pop. 10,000 or more)**

  Mackenzie County, Alta.: 22.6 years
  Hanover, Man.: 27 years
  Grande Prairie, Alta.: 30.3 years
  Petawawa, Ont.: 30.4 years
  Cold Lake, Alta.: 30.5 years

- **Top-5 oldest communities (pop. 10,000 or more)**

  Parksville, B.C.: 58.2 years
  Elliot Lake, Ont.: 57.1 years
  Sidney, B.C.: 56.9 years
  White Rock, B.C.: 53.8 years
  North Saanich, B.C.: 53.7 years

Source: Statistics Canada (Based on median age)


NUMBER OF YOUNG CHILDREN ON THE RISE
Growth and the number of children aged 4 and under by province
2011 POP.
PER CENT GROWTH SINCE 2006
CANADA 1,877,095 11.8
Nfld. & Labrador 24,495 7.2
Prince Edward Island 7,275 8.7
Nova Scotia 42,980 4.4
New Brunswick 36,530 5.1
Quebec 443,840 11.3
Ontario 704,265 5.6
Manitoba 77,180 13.3
Saskatchewan 68,760 19.8
Alberta 244,880 21.9
British Columbia 219,670 8.6
Yukon 1,960 12.8
N.W.T. 3,285 3.9
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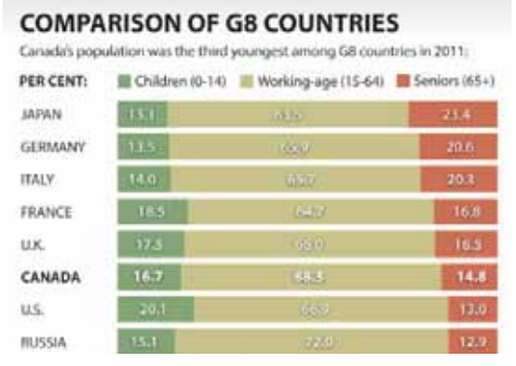

Birth rate

Canada's baby bump is showing

More Canadians, it seems, are changing dirty diapers, serving up spoonfuls of mushy peas and getting tongue-tied over Dr. Seuss books before bed, if the latest census figures from Statistics Canada are any indication.

Previously released population statistics show more people in Canada are having children. The national birth rate increased slightly from 1.59 in 2006 to 1.67 in 2009. In Alberta, the rate is among the highest of the provinces; it was 1.8 in 2010.

Not surprisingly, the latest increase was felt most profoundly in the Prairies, which have become magnets for job-seeking, working-age families looking for a place to put down roots.

In Alberta, the growth rate among kids four and under was 20.9 per cent, followed by Saskatchewan at 19.6 per cent. Quebec also posted a strong increase at 17.5 per cent, as did Nunavut at 15.7 per cent.

Another reason for Canada's baby bump may simply be that there are more moms. Statistics Canada attributed the spike to modestly higher fertility rates in most regions, as well as a growing number of women aged 20 to 34 — traditional child-rearing years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Go to metronews.ca/features to:

- Take the census 2011 quiz.
- Check out the interactive graphic on population projections by age and sex from 1971-2061.
- See the communities map for an interactive breakdown of the data city by city.
- **Watch videos.** Canadians say just "how old is old?"; seniors give longevity tips.

JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

0.99:1
The ratio of people aged 15-24 compared to people aged 55-64 in 2011. In 1931, that ratio stood at 2.95:1.
2016
The year Statistics Canada projects children under 14 will, for the first time, be outnumbered by seniors. This despite the efforts of a very active Alberta, which saw an increase of 20.9 per cent in the number of children aged four and under between 2006 and 2011.
5,825
The number of people in Canada aged 100 and older in 2011. Centenarians have been on the rise over the last decade, with 3,795 in 2001. But a big jump is coming, according to Statistics Canada projections, with the country on its way to seeing 78,300 centenarians in 2061.
40.6
In years, Canada's median age in 2011 — the age at which one half the population is older and the other half is younger. In 2006, it was 39.5.

Women are turning the big, big wheels

Kolby Nepoose has had a lot of jobs at places that would probably sound familiar to many young women — grocery store, health-care centre, coffee shop, bank.

Eventually, though, the lure of sitting at a desk began to fade.

"I just found my work really tedious, sitting at the computer all day," said Nepoose, 25.

So she found something different — way different. She now works at Mammoet, a Dutch multinational that builds and operates heavy lift and transport equipment. Nepoose — booted, hard-hatted and overalled — is working towards a journeyman's ticket as a crane operator.

Workers like Nepoose are still rare: In 2007, only about two per cent of those employed in non-service-sector trades were women. But those numbers are increasing.

JudyLynn Archer is trying to be part of that solution. She leads an Edmonton organization called Women Building Futures, which offers pre-apprenticeship programs to introduce women to trades from carpentry to welding to pipefitting.

A total of 3,000 women contacted Women Building Futures last year looking for information on the trades. About 190 from across Canada are expected to graduate this year, almost all directly into jobs or apprenticeships.

Renee Jones, first-year apprentice crane operator, is seen on a RT 65-tonne crane that she operates at Mammoet, in Edmonton. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

Women "drive with less ego."

JudyLynn Archer of Women Building Futures, who said employers tell her women are easier on heavy equipment — more vigilant with preventative maintenance and safety checks and gentler on the huge and hugely expensive tires the big stuff rolls on.

"If we had 2,000 today, they could all be placed, working," Archer said. "The demand is unbelievable."

Women are fitting in just fine on job sites across the province, she added.

Companies "are very happy with their female employees. They show up every day, they have a strong attention to detail and they're more loyal."

Still, she said, employers are just starting to see women as part of the solution to Canada's coming shortage of skilled labour.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHERE THE SENIORS ARE

A look at the Top 10 communities (population 10,000 or more) with the largest proportion of seniors, according to 2011 census data:

How old is old? 'It's how you feel'

Ask Alan Wilson to define "old" and he answers with a hearty chuckle.

"It's just a number; it's how you feel," said Wilson, a spry 82-year-old who teaches line-dancing classes at a seniors' recreation centre in Peterborough, Ont.

"I had a heart attack 10 years ago and that didn't hold me back at all."

To Wilson and many of his friends, being old is a state of mind — one that Canada's increasingly active senior set is choosing to ignore as the leading edge of the baby boom reaches the traditional retirement age of 65.

So, it's a fair question: How old is old?

The point at which health concerns become real-life realities is when a person can truly be considered "old," said Susan Eng, vice-president for advocacy at the Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP), Canada's leading seniors' advocacy organization.

"Where the rubber hits the road is when old becomes a limitation," said Eng.

And rather than deny that true old age — with its eventual drawbacks — will hit them one day, it's vital that modern seniors embrace their aging, she added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Russian researchers discover massive new cyber-weapon

'Flame.' Virus can turn infected computers into listening devices and even have them suck info out of nearby cellphones

A massive data-slurping cyber-weapon is circulating in the Middle East, a Russian Internet-security firm reported Monday, saying that computers in Iran appear to have been particularly affected.

The virus, dubbed "Flame," is unprecedented both in terms of its size and complexity, Moscow-based Kaspersky Lab ZAO reported, saying it possesses the ability to turn infected computers into listening devices and even suck information out from nearby cellphones.

The announcement sent a ripple of excitement across the computer-security sector. Flame is the third major cyber-weapon discovered in the past two years, and Kaspersky's conclusion that it was crafted at the behest of a national government fuelled speculation that the virus could be part of an Israeli-backed campaign of electronic sabotage aimed at archrival Iran.

Some evidence suggests that the people behind Flame also helped craft Stuxnet, a notorious virus that disrupted controls of some nuclear centrifuges in Iran in 2010, according to Ilan Froimovici, the technical director at Power Communications, which represents Kaspersky in Israel.

The two codes "use the same vulnerabilities in the operating system and the computer infrastructure in order to infect the computer system. We do believe that the same programmers built the two codes," he said.

Stuxnet revolutionized the cyber-security field because it targeted physical infrastructure rather than data, one of the first demonstrations of how savvy hackers can take control of industrial systems to wreak havoc.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Very unusual' virus

Alan Woodward, a professor of computing at the University of Surrey in southern England, compared the virus to a smartphone — depending on what kind of espionage you want to carry out, "you just add apps."

- He said Flame can turn an infected computer into a kind of "industrial vacuum cleaner," copying data from vulnerable cellphones or other devices left near it.

New Nest knows best temp

The Nest Learning Thermostat, shown above, went on sale to Canadians on Tuesday for $249 US — the first country outside the U.S. to get access to the buzzed-about product. Company co-founder Tony Fadell — the lead designer of the iconic iPods and iPhones before leaving Apple in 2005 — thinks Canadian homeowners are ready to spring for a high-tech, premium-priced thermostat, just as they've embraced Apple's slick but pricey smartphones and tablets. The Nest doesn't need to be programmed and instead learns what temperatures owners like to keep their home at during different times. After a few days, the unit will be able to go on auto-pilot and automatically shift the temperature up and down, Fadell said. It can also sense when the house is empty and turn down the furnace or air conditioner, or users can remotely make adjustments with a web browser or app. CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wall Street

Facebook stock falls below $30 US

Facebook's stock has fallen below $30 US for the first time since its much-awaited public debut this month.

The stock fell $3.07, or 9.6 per cent, to close at $28.84 on Tuesday. That's down 24 per cent since its public stock debut. It went as low as $28.65 earlier in the day.

Facebook Inc. began trading publicly on May 18 following one of the most anticipated stock offerings in history.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.76¢ (+0.08¢)

TSX 11,609.3 (+43.15)

OIL $90.76 US (-10¢)

GOLD $1,548.70 US (-$20.20)

Natural gas: $2.517 US (-5.1¢)
Dow Jones: 12,580.69 (+125.86)

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15299 68th Avenue
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VANCOUVER
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116 Davie Street
2228 West 4th Avenue
2723 East Hastings Street
3149 Kingsway
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5698 Victoria Drive
6446 Fraser Street
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Kingsgate Mall

DADS SAY THE DARNEDEST THINGS

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

Justin Halpern is a testament to the power of Twitter.

A lovable loser who was dumped by his girlfriend, he moved back home and started mining his father's advice, salted liberally with profanity, and tweeting it to his followers, who grew into the millions.

Eventually, that turned into a book contract, then a book called S--t My Dad Says, then a sitcom starring William Shatner as "Dad," now another book, this one called I Suck at Girls. And he has already sold the TV rights.

As Dad says: "Any idiot can get lucky once. Takes a special idiot to get lucky twice." Gee, thanks.

Father-son code

My own dad preferred to deliver his wisdom in code. He only ever said two things to me. 1) Pass the salt and 2) Get a job.

Oh, and Justin eventually got — and married — the girl, so maybe he doesn't actually suck at girls.

My own dad preferred to deliver his wisdom in code. He only ever said two things to me. 1) Pass the salt and 2) Get a job.

After a while, the charm of wondering whether any request for advice was going to be met with either option 1) or 2) wore off, and I stopped asking. I mean, I already had three jobs and always passed the salt. As far as I could tell, following instructions failed to help with girls.

One of my earliest attempts at romance failed when the object of my affections said I'd make "some girl a great husband." Which at the time sounded like a crushing put down. Which it was. Even worse, I'm not even sure my actual wife would agree.

Justin says that when his wife-to-be broke up with him the first time, it was his lucky day. Otherwise he never would have moved back home and tweeted Dirty Dad to riches and fame.

I had the same kind of bittersweet formative love life: When I was 16, I met a terrific girl with terrific red hair and a terrific itsy-bitsy teeny-weenie yellow polka dot bikini. Unfortunately, she also came with a psychopath named Ray who owned a Harley.

So I was curious what Sam Halpern had to say about the inhabitants of Venus.

Here's the cleanest I could find. "No, you can be ugly and get laid. You just gotta be willing to sc--w someone uglier than you." Dad's a real piece of work.

I Suck at Girls is shot through with similarly colourful bromides. At one point, when he was nine, Justin asked Sam to explain the birds and the bees. "No," said Sam. "You don't even have hair on your balls."

I think I prefer "pass the salt" and "get a job."

According to a recent survey, Justin and I aren't the only ones getting bad advice from Dad. Turns out only 31 per cent of Canadian women actually experience an orgasm during sex, compared to 84 per cent of men.

Maybe we should all just get a job instead.

Justin Halpern FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES

Royal portrait is rubbish

SUBMITTED

Royalist art

The Queen has a button nose — literally

Jane Perkins
SUBMITTED

Artist Jane Perkins has created three portraits of the Queen made from unwanted buttons, beads and small plastic toys.

The triptych depicts the monarch in three stages of life: during her Coronation, Silver Jubilee and Diamond Jubilee. The above two are for the Coronation and Diamond Jubilee. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

Perkins on her Queen art

- **Sum of many parts.** "I honestly cannot say how many separate items I have used in these portraits. Generally speaking, I use everything from small plastic toys, beads, broken jewelry, buttons, bottle tops and other small found objects to create my art. I get these materials from car boot sales and charity shops that can't sell them. I started out doing this art while making brooches in my final year in my degree in textiles. I was inspired by headdresses from Ecuador used in religious processions, many of which have been made from Barbie doll parts. While I don't consider myself an ardent royalist, I have enjoyed making the portraits of the Queen, particularly as making the crown with different shiny objects can be a very creative process."
- **How it's all pieced together.** "It doesn't take too long to make one portrait — only two weeks. First, I blow up an image of the person to a 70-by-50 centimetre size, and start sticking the various objects on top of the blow-ups themselves. As the colour of the blow-up photocopy is often faded, I always have an 'original', smaller but higher-resolution image to work from. This way, I can stay true to the original colours of the portraits when I add my items."
- **Artistic philosophy.** "I have serious views about recycling and reusing materials. We're drowning in so much unwanted stuff."

In numbers

129

is the number of portraits the Queen has sat down for during her reign. Lucien Freud's portrayal in 2001 proved to be the most controversial, with critics describing the sober likeness as "extremely unflattering."

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Did you tune in to the finale of the 11th season of American Idol?

Twitter

@ireneerutema: " We still need more women" Mayor Naheed Nenshi commenting the new census! I do agree! #yyc #ableg

@itsbribriii: If you are going to fall asleep on the train, make sure you can stay up right. I don't know you, don't lean on me. #yyc

@DawnMcKay: Who put the testosterone in the #yyc water supply today? Holy Aggressive Drivers Batman!

@criticalmassage: Just saw @CalgaryPolice rescue a baby magpie on Stephen Ave. Nice to see! #yyc #notallbad

@CoryBMorgan: If I catch a person letting their dog crap on my lawn & not picking up, I should be allowed to rub dog owners face in it #yyc

metro

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'We wanted to have a formidable silhouette,' said costume designer Colleen Atwood. 'And from a distance it's spooky with the crown and her height and everything.' CONTRIBUTED

Evil thoughts and threads

Snow White and the Huntsman. Dressed to kill — Charlize Theron shines as a wicked queen in beautiful but 'treacherous' costumes

Charlize Theron's evil queen costumes for Snow White and the Huntsman called for hundreds of hand-cut rooster feathers, thousands of iridescent beetle wings from Thailand and one particularly imposing crown.

The outfits, some of which are on view at an LA pop-up gallery ahead of the film's June 1 opening, represented a host of firsts for Academy Award-winning costume designer Colleen Atwood.

From the leather piping on the pleats of the queen's wedding gown to the gauzy green metal trim on the beetle-wing dress, the nine-time Oscar nominee and three-time winner experimented with materials for director Rupert Sanders' dark take on the classic fairy tale.

"The idea of the fairy tale sets you free in a way because you can make it up," Atwood said. "And I love to make up stuff." She created an armoured ensemble fit for a queen by dressing up chain mail with rolled leather and horsehair trim and topping it off with a particularly pointy metal crown.

"We wanted to have a formidable silhouette," Atwood said, "and from a distance it's spooky with the crown and her height and everything." (Theron stands nearly six feet tall, the designer added.)

In Sanders' version of the Snow White story, Kristen Stewart portrays the only woman in the land fairer than Theron's evil queen Ravenna. The queen dispatches a huntsman (Chris Hemsworth) to kill the young woman, but instead he becomes her mentor and protector.

Atwood took on the project after finishing work on Tim Burton's Dark Shadows, starring Johnny Depp. Atwood and Burton are frequent and successful collaborators. Her most recent Oscar was for his 2010 film Alice in Wonderland, and she earned nominations for her costumes in Burton's Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street and Sleepy Hollow.

Atwood's Snow White costumes are miles — and eras — away from Dark Shadows.

"They don't resemble each other in any way," she said, "so it was fun to shift from one to the other and have a whole different world to think about."

And slide right into. Snow White director Sanders said Atwood's wardrobes "blend seamlessly into this world, and they speak volumes about the world and its characters."

Theron agreed. From the wedding dress, with its architectural shoulders that appear to be made from bones, to the twice-embroidered gown that eventually resembles an old, peeling skin, Atwood's costumes reflect the evil queen's obsession with appearances.

"Every costume had a feeling of not quite what it seems," Theron said. "In a way, these dresses were like torture devices for Ravenna. I love that because I feel like Ravenna was, in a way, more torturous toward herself than to the people she was killing."

To minimize the actual onset torture, Atwood employed a team of about 50 people to help the actors in and out of the elaborate costumes.

But the beetle wings remain dangerous. Thousands of the hard, brittle wings decorate the evil queen's regal dress of silk and metal mesh.

"They're incredibly sharp, so I had to be careful about how I used them. If you hit them, you can hurt yourself," the designer said.

"They're quite treacherous, which really suited the character." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2 SCENE

Scene in brief

Citytv fall lineup

The addition of late night host Jimmy Kimmel and the arrival of Katie Couric's daytime talk show are among the highlights of Citytv's fall shows. Upcoming offerings include the buddy comedy Partners, the odd-couple sibling sitcom Ben and Kate, Mindy Kaling's single-camera The Mindy Project and Reba McEntire's Malibu Country. Citytv says returning sitcoms include New Girl, 2 Broke Girls, Suburgatory, Don't Trust the B-- in Apartment 23 and Last Man Standing.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Barenaked Ladies frontman Ed Robertson co-hosts Live! With Kelly

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The trophy that Trebek took home

What is the Peabody Award. Host of Jeopardy receives electronic media award for hit game show

Alex Trebek holds a 2011 Peabody Award. CHARLES SYKES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Let's take "Breakfast" for $500: An Oh Henry! chocolate bar and a Diet Pepsi.

And here's the question: What did Alex Trebek consume a couple of hours before this breakfast interview?

"When I say 'the Breakfast of Champions,' I'm serious," he jokes as he orders just coffee.

A morning routine of candy and cola might not seem strange for someone other than Trebek. But for 28 years as host of Jeopardy! he's blended likeability with an air of erudition and correctness. He's seemingly not the sort of guy who, at 71, might choose a wake-up menu better suited to a child whose mother's back is turned.

Trebek acknowledges the apparent contradiction.

In person, he is leading-man handsome in a natty grey suit, a model of calm and control, the perfect steward of TV's answer-and-question institution. (Check local listings for time and channel.)

The L.A.-based Trebek is in New York to receive a Peabody Award for electronic media, as Jeopardy joins other awardees that include serious documentaries, edgy comedies and high-toned dramas.

"We're in some prestigious company," Trebek says. "But I think what makes Jeopardy! special is that, among all the quiz and game shows out there, ours tends to encourage learning. A lot of the stuff is trivia, but maybe a subject will come up that will arouse the viewers' curiosity and they'll want to find out more. We tell you it's OK to be bright, to know a lot of things, and to want to learn."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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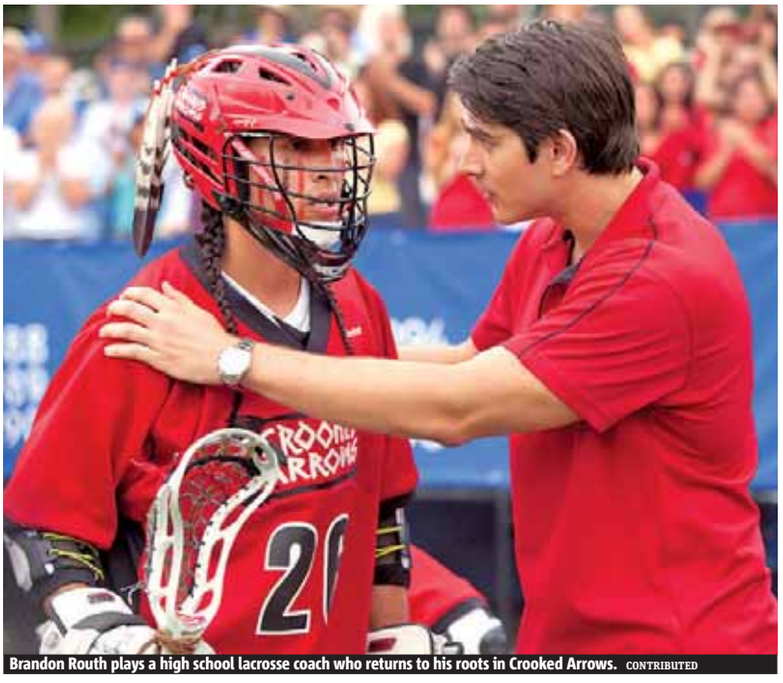


Brandon Routh plays a high school lacrosse coach who returns to his roots in Crooked Arrows. CONTRIBUTED

From 'faster than a speeding bullet' to a Crooked Arrow

A bit of a gamble. A wealthy businessman wants to put a casino in the aboriginal community where he grew up. The catch? He's got to coach lacrosse

LIZ BROWN
scene@metronews.ca

It's been six years since Brandon Routh donned a cape and leotards for his role as Superman in Superman Returns.

But is the 31-year-old actor softening on his man of steel reputation? It would seem so in his new film, Crooked Arrows. In the movie, Routh's athletic prowess is challenged — by way of a race — by a hopeless high school lacrosse team that he's been charged with coaching. It ends in a sprint and embarrassment for the man who could once claim he was faster than a speeding bullet.

"I had to pull up a bit, that was an acting job," he insists, laughing. "I'm a bit older than those guys, but I'm still pretty fast."

Regardless, Routh's character is more prodigal than super in Crooked Arrows. He plays half-Iroquois Joe Logan, a successful businessman and former high school lacrosse star who has lost touch with his Native American roots. When he returns to his community to convince his father, the chief, to build a casino on the land, his father and the rest of the council concede to the idea — on one condition — he coaches the high school lacrosse team that hasn't won a single game all season. Oh yeah, he also has to find his roots again.

Sound a bit like the Mighty Ducks? It is. The main difference is, of course, the sport and the role that Native American culture and spirituality play in the film.

For Routh, the role was an opportunity to engross himself in some of his own background — his father's family has Kickapoo heritage. "Obviously the Iroquois nation is separate from (Kickapoo) but I was excited because I didn't have any contact with that culture in my family because we were so far removed," he says.

He also got to learn a little bit more about lacrosse, admitting his only exposure to the game before the film was a one-week stint in Grade 8 phys-ed and the occasional game on ESPN. "When you see me take some shots, I had to learn for that specific scene just so that I looked legit, which took a lot of time," he says.

The most important lesson he took from lacrosse, though, was the culture surrounding the sport. "Watching (Native Americans) play and hearing them talk about why they play gave me a lot of insight into how they live life. Just knowing that one reason they play this game is not to win, per se, but to entertain the creator. That's an interesting prospect and a lot more can be learned from participating in a sport if you play that way."

Avoiding stereotypes

Showing Native American culture

With a story that focuses so much on culture and spirituality, it is always a challenge not to make assumptions or oversimplify a complex society.

Routh says the producers and writers avoided this by going through several script edits.

"Ten years ago, when this idea started out, that was a challenge. Two guys had an idea about making this film and they had passion for it, but they didn't know Native American culture very well. So the script went through pass after pass after pass," he says.

"There was somebody at the Smithsonian who looked at it and helped refine it, but there was also a lot of input from people from the Onondaga area."

Getting up close and personal: Christopher Lloyd stars as Mr. Goodman in Piranha 3DD HANDOUT

When our creature comforts desert us: A field guide for killer animal films

Piranha 3DD. In the hinterland who's who of cinema there are as many kinds of 'animals gone wild' movies as there are animals

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

This weekend Piranha 3DD dusts off not one, but two nature attacks genres.

First and foremost it falls squarely into the 'death from the briny depths' category. In the movie blood-crazed prehistoric fish nibble their way through a fresh pack of nubile teenagers at a water park, joining the likes of Jaws (hungry shark on the beach species), Mako: Jaws of Death (psychic sharks) and Tentacles (angry squid gets even with calamari eaters) and Piranha, the 1978 film about man eating fish at a summer resort ("They're eating the guests, sir."). Frankenfish features a genetically engineered fish who is a double threat — it swims and walks on land!

Piranha 3DD also falls into the 'hungry primeval creature' sub-genre. Most famous of this genre is Grizzly, a 1976 movie about an ancient 18-foot bear who snacks on campers.

On the other end of the scale are the 'mutated bug' movies. Tired of being squished under foot these critters are the product of scientific research or radioactive mutation. Them! and Empire of the Ants see radioactively modified ants acting up, while William Shatner battles killer webslingers in Kingdom of the Spiders. In Spider one character sums up the plot with the line, "That spider is a killing machine!"

Alfred Hitchcock didn't invent the 'when-animals-attack' genre, but he helped create the 'we're mad as hell and aren't going to take it anymore' (animal edition) variety.

Animals had gone wild on film before The Birds, but usually because they were tormented by their owners — King Kong — or victims of radiation — see 'chemically altered bug movies' — or hungry — Food of the Gods where giant chickens feed on humans — but Hitchcock's birds attack for no reason.

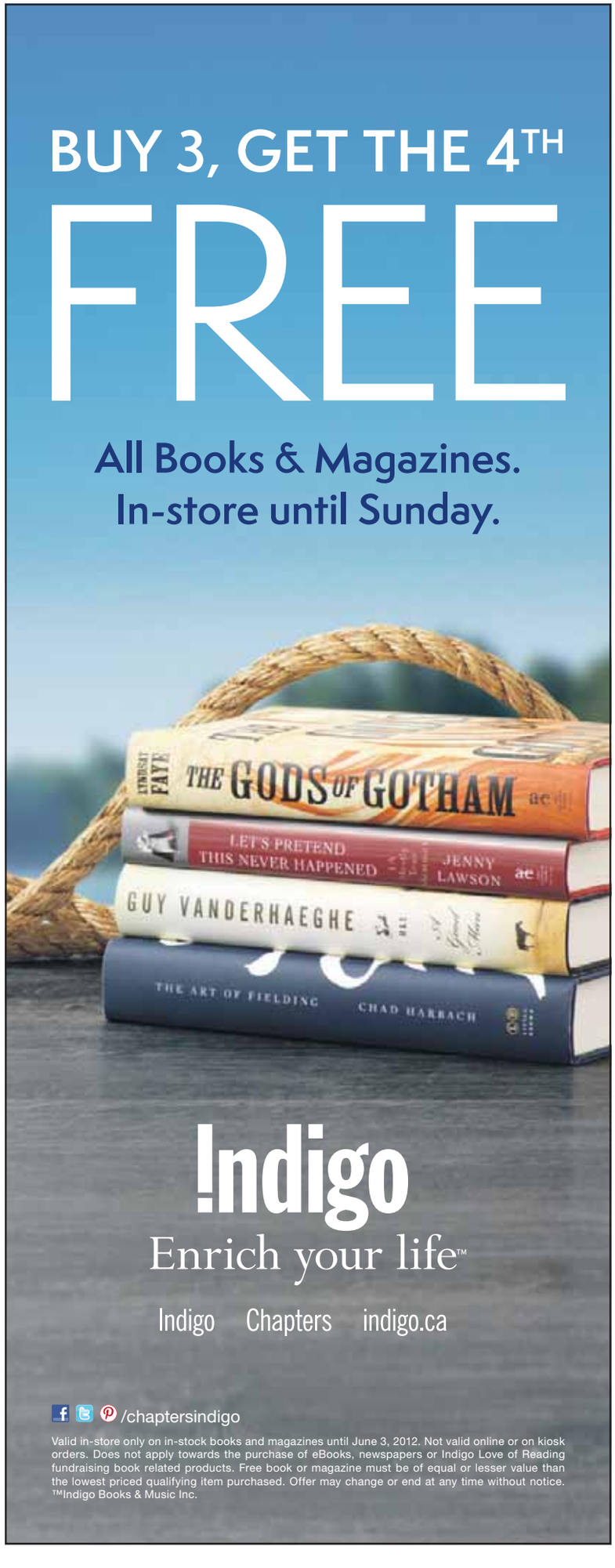
Next is the 'mother nature is angry' genus, and everyone knows it's best not to annoy Mother Earth. Everyone that is except the campers who learn that forest animals don't react kindly to having their home turned into a waste dump in Long Weekend.

And finally there's the 'animal cage match', seen in Frogs, in which members of a rich Southern family are massacred by all manner of animals — birds, lizards and even butterflies — in payback for ruining the environment.

Leading the charge are the frogs, who live up to the film's advertising slogan, "TODAY — the Pond! TOMORROW — the World!"

Angry birds

"Alfred Hitchcock didn't invent the 'when-animals-attack' genre, but he helped create the 'we're mad as hell and aren't going to take it anymore' (animal edition) variety. Animals had gone wild on film before The Birds, but usually because they were tormented by their owners..."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Dave Hill's new collection of personal essays is a charming snapshot of the comedian's ups and downs. HANDOUT

Tears of a clown: A comedian's story

Tasteful Nudes...
Collection of candid personal essays, funny and poignant, highlight comedian's misadventures and triumphs

JIM FENNER
Metro World News New York

Dave Hill may have the unassuming face of a man who could give you solid tax advice, but be forewarned. He is in fact a snapping Cerberus, a riotous triumvirate of comedy, heavy metal and velvet suits. The comedian whose biographical gamut includes several long-running stage shows, appearances on This American Life, rock collaborations with Moby and a budding bro-mance with Dick Cavett, unleashes his proverbial beast in Tasteful Nudes...and Other Misguided Attempts at Personal Growth and Validation, a "tell-some" collection of personal essays. At turns hilarious and poignant, blusterous and self-effacing, the book covers some of the misadventures and moments of triumph — after all, we don't all get to tour Japan — that help forms Hill into the irresistibly likable goofball his fans know today.

You're known as the King of Metal, talk shows and podcasts. Are you now the king of books?
That's the plan. I wanted to establish my dominance in another medium. I've had only like three goals in my life. My first goal was to have a rock band, have a record deal and a video on MTV. So, boom, I did that. I've been wanting to write a book for 10 or 12 years, but I got so completely sidetracked with everything else. Recently though, I thought, "Oh shit! What if they stop making books? I better get on that!"

It's 2012, man. The Mayans are coming for the books first.
Yeah, exactly! Books might cease to exist. And now, my only other goal is to get one of those Newfoundland dogs. They just make me so happy. I had an idea years ago for a business called "Rent-A-Pup" where you could rent a dog, but then someone actually did it in Japan. My business model was like, a Newfoundland would be the same price as two terriers.

Two out of three ain't bad. You met your goal with putting out the book — what next?
I'm hoping to become wildly rich. It would be good in general, but specifically, it would be great to just get the dog. I hope that people that would like the book find out about it. And buy it. And read it. I think it has wide appeal — to young AND old! You probably have to be at least 13 to read it because of all the F-bombs.

There are a ton of F-Bombs. But they're sweet F-bombs.
That's the most scandalous thing in the book, I think. There's the prostitute that I don't have sex with (the subject of the title story Tasteful Nudes). Oh! And, as a follow up, I recently spoke with her and she got out of the business. She got in touch with me to tell me. She started her own business that doesn't involve having sex for money.

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Amanda Bynes ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Amanda Bynes defends herself after news of third hit-and-run

It's just now coming to light that Amanda Bynes may have been involved in a third hit-and-run incident in April — just four days after her arrest for driving under the influence following her hitting a police car, according to TMZ.

A woman says a BMW slammed into her car on the 101 freeway on April 10, then sped off. While the woman gave chase, she was only able to get the license plate number, which police traced to a rental car that had been hired by Bynes. The woman identified Bynes as the driver using her mug shot from her recent arrest.

Quoted

"I cant help but laugh at all of you writing fake stories about me. I was not in any hit-and-runs"

Amanda Bynes

Jessica Biel

Jessica Biel says wedded bliss won't change her life

Jessica Biel admits she isn't expecting a whole new life once she marries Justin Timberlake.

"To me, nothing will really change, because I'm almost never home," she tells Gala magazine. "But when I am home, I enjoy cooking."

So what exactly does the actress like to make? "I especially love making cupcakes," she says. Biel also describes herself as "someone who lets things happen naturally," so don't expect a baby right away from the famous couple.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Wayne Coyne shows us a new side of Erykah Badu

THE WORD
Pat Healy
scene@metronews.ca

Flaming Lips frontman Wayne Coyne can always be counted on to fulfill a few basic rock 'n' roll needs: providing drastic psychedelic reinterpretations of songs you thought you already knew; teaming up with left-field collaborators that might not make sense on paper but sound awesome in practice; and tweeting the odd nude photo of himself, somebody he knows or somebody that you know.

Yesterday, Coyne got a hat trick when he tweeted nude photos of Erykah Badu, with whom he was shooting a video for a 10-minute cover she did with the Lips of a song that Roberta Flack made famous, The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face. The photos showed Badu bathing in glitter, covered in blood and generally seeming like a perfect foil to Coyne's weirdness.

God bless the Flaming Lips!

She's expressing something

While rehearsing her hit Express Yourself for a concert in Tel Aviv over the weekend, Madonna mixed things up a little and transitioned eerily, hilariously smoothly into Lady Gaga's Born This Way.

Like everyone else, Madonna flagged Gaga's song for sounding like a knock-off when it was released, calling it "reductive" and a "wonderful redo" of Express Yourself.

We're not sure what to think here: playful peace offering acknowledging that there's room for two, or is this Madonna's severed unicorn head?

WITH FILES FROM MONICA WEYMOUTH

Robert De Niro

Robert De Niro offers career advice to grads

Robert De Niro received an honourary doctorate from Bates College in Maine this weekend, and he gave some interesting advice.

"I think this is the most important piece of advice you'll get today: become a movie star," De Niro told the crowd, according to the Bangor Daily News.

"You might be tempted by other careers, other interests, other commitments. There might be pressure on you to change the world, but you want to find the strength to resist. When I started, I wasn't a movie star, and it sucked. The moment I became a movie star, things started to get better."

Bar Refaeli

Bar Refaeli dishes on her celebrity crushes

A few years with Leonardo DiCaprio has apparently made Bar Refaeli choosy when it comes to men.

"Justin Bieber and I are going to get married some day," she tells Us Weekly at the Maxim magazine Hot 100 party. (Refaeli came in at No. 1, by the way.) "I also like Tom Cruise. He's very classy. I liked him in Jerry Maguire and in roles like that." And while Refaeli's tastes skew A-list, they're not confined to men, as the Israeli model admits she has a massive girl-crush on Hunger Games star Jennifer Lawrence. "She's natural, she's down to earth. I think she's all that."

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3 LIFE

Travel in brief

When you can't take Fido...

When you travel and have to leave your dog behind, you can call a kennel, hire a pet sitter — or find him a new friend online. The website DogVacay debuted in New York and Los Angeles in March and, just in time for the summer travel season, is now available throughout the United States and Canada. The site lets pet owners look up hosts in the area who will care for a dog in their own homes, giving a pet the food, exercise and attention you would give if you stayed home — sort of a doggy version of couch-surfing, for an average price of $25 to $30 a day. Hosts are checked out and interviewed by DogVacay and every owner and dog is encouraged to meet the host. Visit dogvacay.com for more information.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Montreal's Ritz-Carlton shows off results of $200-million restoration.

The Gladstone Hotel is entirely dedicated to art. METRO WORLD NEWS

The top five arty hotels

A crappy reproduction of Van Gogh's Sunflowers just doesn't cut it in a boutique hotel trying to attract high-end, culturally demanding guests. Here are some hotels that combine style with the feel of an art gallery.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Hotel La Belle Juliette, Paris, France

In 2005, the photography-loving owners of Hotels Paris Rive Gauche, a group of boutique hotel gems in the French capital, commissioned photographers to capture the essence of a night's stay at one of their hotels in a single shot. The project proved such a hit that it inspired an annual "A hotel photo, an artist's view" photo prize and exhibition, to support up-and-coming photographers. Each month a different young photographer is invited to give their take on a night's stay at a HPRG hotel. hotel-belle-juliette-paris.com

Town Hall Hotel, London, England

The owners of this imposing hotel in the former Bethnal Green Town Hall commissioned seven artists to create works as it was being built. They integrate sensitively with the original features from the 1910s and 1930s and reflect the building's rich history; the art here is built into the hotel. So Debbie Lawson's wooden veneer Victorian-era ladies of the night are discreetly inlaid into the parquet floor that runs along the first floor corridor, and Zoe Mendelson's artwork lights up the 1930s original Town Hall safe in the reception. townhallhotel.com

The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto

Not only are the 37 rooms in Toronto's artiest and oldest continuously-operating hotel designed by artists, but the entire building is dedicated to art. A full-time curator organizes exhibitions in the four galleries, and the hotel hosts around 100 art events and exhibitions every year, as well as live performances, comedy, gigs, burlesque and creative courses. More than 4,000 art lovers flock to the annual Come Up To My Room festival, when artists and designers display their works, with sculptures throughout the corridors, the guestrooms and generally imposing their presence on the hotel's public spaces for four days. gladstonehotel.com

Gramercy Park Hotel, New York

It's not every night that you get to sleep beneath one of Damien Hirst's spin paintings, but you can do that at the Gramercy Park Hotel. This is hotel meets art museum. The flamboyant interiors of this grand hotel were reconceived by designer Ian Schrager and painter Julian Schnabel, whose work hangs above the fireplace. Priceless works are littered throughout this wildly creative space, from Basquiats and Andy Warhols discreetly hung in lounges alongside bespoke designer furniture pieces, to a vast scarlet Cy Twombly canvas in the lounge. gramercyparkhotel.com

The Saxon Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa

This luxurious hotel in Johannesburg has a strong sense of its African heritage – Nelson Mandela moved in here after he was released from his prison ordeal and wrote his famous autobiography, The Long Road to Freedom. The hotel recently invested in a significant collection of African art, acquiring more than 200 original artworks created by 11 emerging and established South African artists, giving guests the chance to fully immerse themselves in African culture. saxon.co.za

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Iceberg tours offer a prehistoric taste of the last ice age

Newfoundland.
Nature's frozen sculptures from another era make for great sightseeing on the east coast

Six weeks after the 100th anniversary of the Titanic disaster showcased Iceberg Alley off Newfoundland, an early and plentiful show of the glacial sculptures is drawing visitors from around the world.

Tourists from Japan, South Africa, Europe, the U.S. and across Canada are lining up for their chance to admire these mammoth relics from the last ice age.

Huge white-and-aqua-blue blocks carved by wind and waves into towering pillars, contoured slabs and smooth Henry Moore-like shapes now dot the province's coastlines.

Capt. Barry Rogers, co-owner and operator of Iceberg Quest Ocean Tours with his wife Carol Anne Hayes, says it has already been the best iceberg viewing season off St. John's in recent years.

"Normally our season is the latter part of May and June.

"We've been doing iceberg tours since May 9, and with full boats," he said of the vessel that's equipped with a life raft for 75 people along with personal flotation devices. It typically carries between about 30 and 50 passengers, he said.

On a recent tour, Rogers steered the boat through St. John's Harbour, past the colourful clapboard houses of the Battery that hug Signal Hill, through the Narrows and out into the open North Atlantic. Cruising at about eight knots past Cape Spear's iconic flashing lighthouse, the most easterly point of North America, it wasn't long before relatively small but hazardous chunks of ice, or "bergy bits," could be seen in the water.

These rock-hard blocks of ice are feared by mariners for their ability to slice even the strongest hull like a can opener. Rogers said bergy bits are a major reason why he avoids night trips at this time of year.

Melting pieces of ice less than five metres long are called "growlers" for the sounds they make, "like a saucy dog" as they release air, he added.

A bit farther out, the boat's radar picked up something that was soon seen rising up from the water ahead. It was a tabular iceberg, about 90-metres long and 45-metres wide, flat on the surface where icy dust was visible alongside deepening crevices and cracks. Melt-water rushed off in places like small rivers.

"Awesome!" was the response from several passengers as Rogers asked what they thought.

"We're looking at 600 to 700 feet of water underneath us right now," the captain said, urging them to envision that 90 per cent of the berg's mass is submerged.

Rogers described over a microphone how the big slab likely split from glaciers that cover much of Greenland. They form a thick ice coating that creeps down hills and ridges, breaking off with a booming crash as it reaches the sea.

Resulting bergs are believed to be at least 12,000-year-old frozen samples of some of the purest water on earth. They float because they're less dense than sea water.

Tourists are especially fascinated with icebergs because of the Titanic and a surging interest in Newfoundland and Labrador thanks to a hit advertising campaign, Rogers said. The International Ice Patrol, formed after a relatively small berg sank the great ship on April 15, 1912, to this day reports the movement of sea ice for those navigating these dangerous waters.

One crew member armed with a large fishing net captured a chunk of ice to chip into prehistoric cocktails.

"We sprinkle rum over the 12,000-year-old ice," Rogers said. "Where else would you get to consume something that's from the ice ages?"

Shane Sweeney, a crane operator from Peterborough, N.H., has seen glaciers in Alaska but was impressed with what he saw off Newfoundland. "Most places you go in the world you're not going to see ice floating around like that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

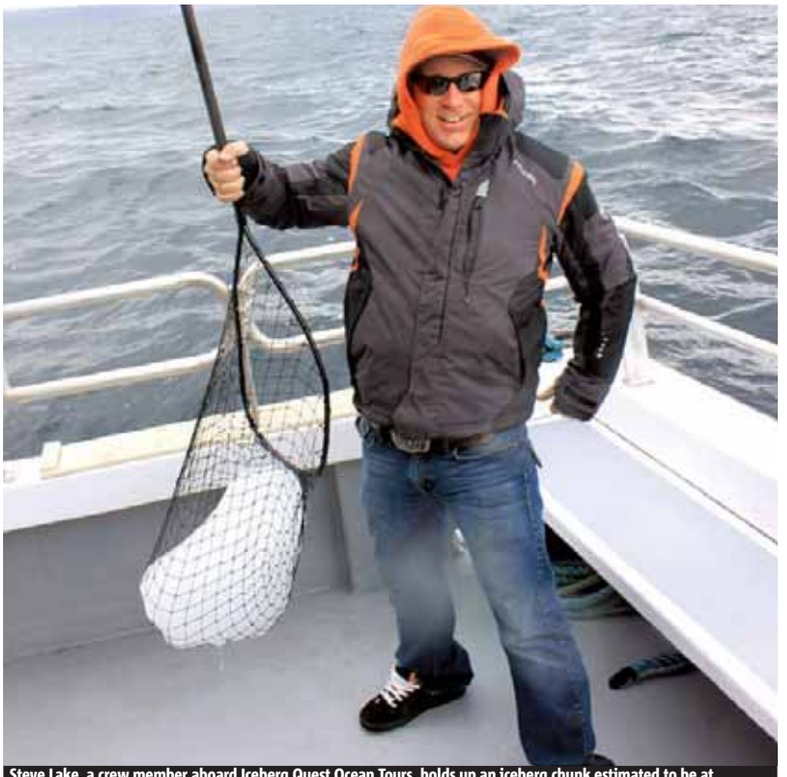
If you go...

- **Iceberg Quest Ocean Tours with locations in St. John's, N.L. and Twillingate, N.L.:** icebergquest.com or 1-709-722-1888.
- **Northland Discovery Boat Tours, St Anthony, N.L.:** discovernorthland.com or 1-877-632-3747.
- **Iceberg tracker information, Anthony, N.L.:** icebergfinder.com

Quoted

"We sprinkle rum over the 12,000-year-old ice. Where else would you get to consume something that's from the ice ages?"

Barry Rogers, owner and operator of Iceberg Quest Ocean Tours



Steve Lake, a crew member aboard Iceberg Quest Ocean Tours, holds up an iceberg chunk estimated to be at least 12,000 years old that was set to be chipped into cocktails. MIKE WERT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Good things come wrapped in paper

Black Cod. Asparagus and creme fraîche walnut sauce makes this one delicious meal

Simple, light and delicious, this recipe combines fresh herbs and spices that perfectly complement the rich butter flavour of the fish.

The combo of creme fraiche and walnuts add a crunchy twist to a delicately spiced, classic meal.

The creamy walnut sauce can also be served on top of chicken breasts or turkey. It makes a delicious vegetable dip as well.

Ingredients

- 250 ml (1 cup) walnut pieces, coarsely chopped
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) fresh tarragon leaves, chopped
- 60 ml (1/4 cup) creme fraîche
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) Dijon mustard
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) apple cider vinegar
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) walnut or olive oil
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) capers, chopped
- 4 small potatoes, thinly sliced
- 20 asparagus spears, trimmed
- 4 pieces (each 150 g/4 oz) black cod

1. Cut 4 circles of parchment paper (each 38 cm/15 inches in diameter); set aside.

2. In a bowl, combine walnuts, tarragon, creme fraiche, Dijon mustard, vinegar, walnut oil and capers; set aside.

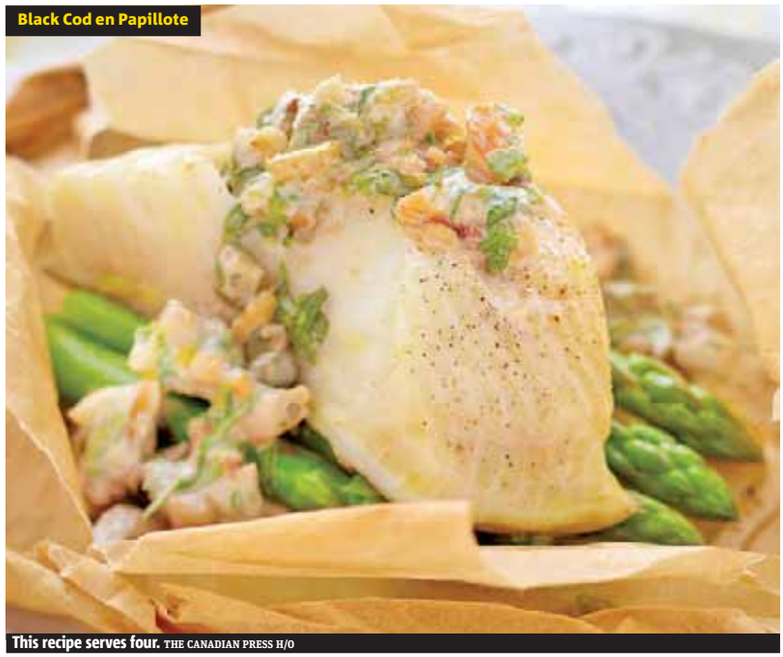
3. Fold one parchment round in half and unfold. Spread one sliced potato in the centre of the bottom half of parchment. Place five asparagus spears on top of the potato and then lay the black cod on the asparagus.

4. Spoon 1/4 of the walnut mixture on top of the cod and fold the top half of parchment over. Seal edges by twisting and pressing the edges together in a half moon pattern. Repeat with remaining pieces of cod.

5. Place parchment packets on a baking sheet and bake in 200 C (400 F) oven for 20 to 25 minutes until parchment is lightly browned.

6. Remove from oven. Carefully cut a slit in the top of the packets, taking care as contents will be hot and steam may escape. Tear back edges of paper to reveal fish and serve. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ WALNUTINFO.COM/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Black Cod en Papillote



This recipe serves four. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Drink of the Week

Watermelon Mojitos

1. In a tall glass, place mint. Using back of a wooden spoon, muddle. In blender, purée watermelon, 20 seconds. In a cocktail glass, combine watermelon, cherry syrup, lime juice and rum. Stir. Add ice and top with sparkling water. Serve immediately.

- 3 fresh mint sprigs
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) watermelon purée
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cherry-flavoured syrup or grenadine
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) freshly squeezed lime juice
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) light rum
- Ice cubes
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) chilled sparkling water or club soda

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ WATERMELON.ORG

Steam your way to healthy and fat-free fish options

This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Admittedly, steamed fish doesn't exactly scream mouthwatering. But what it lacks in excitement it makes up for in health cred.

Steaming generally involves no added fat and is a great way of retaining all of the nutrients in your food. It's also speedy.

One of the best ways to steam fish is what the French call en papillote (pronounced on pap-ee-oat), or literally "in parchment." In this simple method, fish is wrapped in a packet of parchment paper. As it cooks, the food releases juices. Those flavourful juices turn to steam and are trapped in the packet, cooking and flavouring the food, while keeping it moist.

You also can add other ingredients to flavour and cook alongside the fish, such as herbs, slices of lemon and vegetables. Because fish cooks quickly, it's a good idea to pick vegetables that are either thinly cut or tender; this helps them cook at the same speed as the fish.

1. Heat the oven to 375 F.

2. Cut 4 large pieces parchment paper, about 12-by-20-inches each. Fold each in half the short way.

3. In bowl, toss green beans with the paprika. Season with salt and black pepper. Open each sheet of parchment similar to a book. Arrange quarter of beans on one half of each sheet of parchment, placing them close to the fold line. Top each pile with a hake fillet. Season again with salt and pepper.

Ingredients

- 1/2 pound small green beans, trimmed
- Pinch smoked paprika
- Salt and ground black pepper
- Four 4-ounce hake fillets
- 4 sprigs fresh thyme
- 4 fresh mint leaves
- 4 small sprigs fresh marjoram
- 4 lemon slices

4. Top each fillet with a sprig of thyme, a mint leaf, a sprig of marjoram and a slice of lemon. Fold the parchment packets closed like a book again. Starting at one end of the fold, fold the edges of the paper together every couple of inches, creating a seam all the way around. Tuck the last end under and place on a baking sheet.

5. Bake 10 minutes. To serve, place each packet on a serving plate and tear open at the centre. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Salmon En Papillote. Elegant entrée features fish and vegetables

1. Prepare 2 sheets of parchment paper (each 38 cm/15 inches); set aside.

2. In shallow dish, combine oil, garlic, dill and lemon juice; add fillets and coat. Refrigerate 4 hours.

3. In centre of each piece of parchment paper, arrange and evenly spread julienne vegetables the length of the fish, then place fillets on top of vegetables.

4. Fold bottom of parchment firmly over vegetables and fish, fold sides over to close, fold top down and firmly wrap around to seal.

5. Place parcels, vegetable side down and side by side, in a slow cooker and close lid firmly. Cook on high for 2 hours. Be cautious when opening packages as there will be hot liquid.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CROCK-POT

Ingredients

- 30 ml (2 tbsp) vegetable oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) finely chopped fresh dill
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) lemon juice
- 2 salmon fillets (about 500 g/1 lb total)
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) assorted julienne vegetables (such as carrots, zucchini, celery, red pepper)
- Fresh herbs finely chopped to garnish
- Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste

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Student Voice

The hunt has been harder than expected

Addie Sorrell
Student
Advertising Media Sales
Humber College
TalentEgg.ca

In 2006, I dropped out of tourism and travel to pursue my dream: music. I specialized in Music Business and Engineering at Fanshawe College in London, Ont., and the program was structured so well that it seemed I wouldn't have any trouble finding a job after graduation.

The initial search was hard, and it took me a couple months of applications and emails before I finally landed an internship at a small music label in Toronto. It was a three-month internship with a chance for more work, I was told. So I packed up and moved to Toronto.

Eventually I was asked to start doing some commission work, which included researching bands and video editing. However, this small amount of pay was only for work I was doing outside office hours.

Three months later, I mentioned the idea of full-time work. My boss said, "This wasn't an internship; this is the job. We pay you commission — that's more than we'd ever give an intern. But keep up the good work!"

Two weeks later, I quit.

This is when it got hard. I spent an entire year unemployed with very few interviews. I applied for jobs in every city, a minimum of three per day.

It was a long and depressing year, and it never got better until a particularly desperate night in June, when I bit the bullet and applied to college programs for advertising. School is the one thing I was never rejected from.

Where I am now

I just finished my first year of Advertising Media Sales at Humber College, with honours. I chose advertising because it can be applied to so many fields and seems to always be a necessity for every successful company. For the past few months, I have been applying for summer internships in advertising and marketing departments all over the city.

My recommendations for students

Job rejection really isn't personal and generally you're competing with 15 other people for one little job. The odds are never in your favour, but that doesn't mean you can just stop. You will never get the job you don't apply to, and you can never fear that rejection.

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CASSANDRA JOWETT
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If you haven't seriously considered the insurance industry as an ideal place to start your career, maybe these statistics will encourage you to start:

Not even the recent tough economic times could slow the growth of the insurance industry; while many industries were laying off workers at the height of the last economic downturn, about 12,000 positions were added to the insurance workforce in Canada.

In addition, according to recent demographic research conducted by The Insurance Institute of Canada, about half of the approximately 110,000 property and casualty insurance professionals are between 41 and 60 years old, and 25 per cent of them are expected to retire in the next two to six years.

There aren't enough young insurance professionals to fill those gaps at the entry level or to move up into management roles, so the opportunities to start and grow your career within the insurance industry are enormous no matter what your educational background.

Trevor Buttrum, Career Connections Program Manager at the Insurance Institute (career-connections.info), answered a few of our questions to help students and recent grads better understand the job opportunities in this booming industry.

What are the different areas of the insurance industry?

There are three main types of insurance:

Life, Health and Financial: Essentially, making sure money is there to support you in case you get sick or to make sure families and friends do not need to shoulder the costs associated with your final expenses.

Social Insurance: These are government administered programs. In Canada, we are lucky enough to have universal health care. We also have employment insurance and workplace safety insurance which make sure we have a means of financial support in the case of job loss or injury at work.

Property and Casualty: This is essentially for anything without a pulse. Whether it's for something we own, our businesses or even our liability in an accident.

What do people who work in insurance typically like most about their jobs?

When asked what they like most about the industry, many insurance professionals talk about the variety and stability the industry offers.

There is a multitude of opportunities available within the sector that build on your interests, experience and career goals. The industry also has an openness to working in multiple business areas or changing directions over the course of your career. This allows for a career path that evolves and is as individual as you are.

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Interested in the insurance industry?

Four tips from an expert on breaking in

CASSANDRA JOWETT
TalentEgg.ca

If you think you might be interested in a career in insurance, the best thing you can do is start exploring the industry while you're still a student through research, networking and work experience, such as co-ops, internships, summer jobs and part-time jobs.

"This is a great way to build knowledge, skills and experience which will serve as a great foundation for starting your career in the industry," says Trevor Buttrum, Career Connections Program Manager at the Insurance Institute.

We asked Trevor to help us map out a strategy to help you start your career and get a job in the insurance industry.

Identify a clear career goal within the insurance sector

There are nine entry-level "gateway" roles in the insurance sector and they're all different, so it's important to know where you want to go as early as possible.

According to Buttrum, "this will help you to target your job search documents, choose which employers to target and plot out your career path."

Transfer your existing skills and experience to insurance

From there, you can figure out how your skills and experience might transfer to that type of role.

Worried that your work and volunteer experiences in retail, food service or camp counselling aren't applicable to the insurance industry? "Believe it or not, they are," says Buttrum. "The customer service and problem solving involved in each of these is definitely something you will use in the insurance sector."

In addition, think about how your experience with shoplifting prevention programs (fraud/theft prevention), responsibility for bank deposits (ethics), health and safety regulations (compliance), incident management and documentation can apply to what you might be doing in insurance.

Build your network

There's a good chance you're already connected to at least one insurance professional through your car insurance, tenant or home insurance, or through your parents, Buttrum says, so you won't have to start from scratch.

"Ask questions and indicate your interest in the industry — you never know who they know and can connect you to."

From there, you can branch out and develop new connections by attending professional and social events in the industry and on your campus.

Work toward a professional designation

Although certifications and licenses are really dependent on the role you are interested in, Buttrum says students should consider taking a course or two toward the Chartered Insurance Professional (CIP) designation — "the industry standard for excellence, education and ethics within the industry."

Starting your designation as a student will allow you to complete it earlier in your career and may also make you more attractive to potential employers.

Once you're hired, he says, "Many employers support their workforce in completing the professional education required to excel in their career. This can be in the form of tuition assistance, salary bonuses or paid time off."

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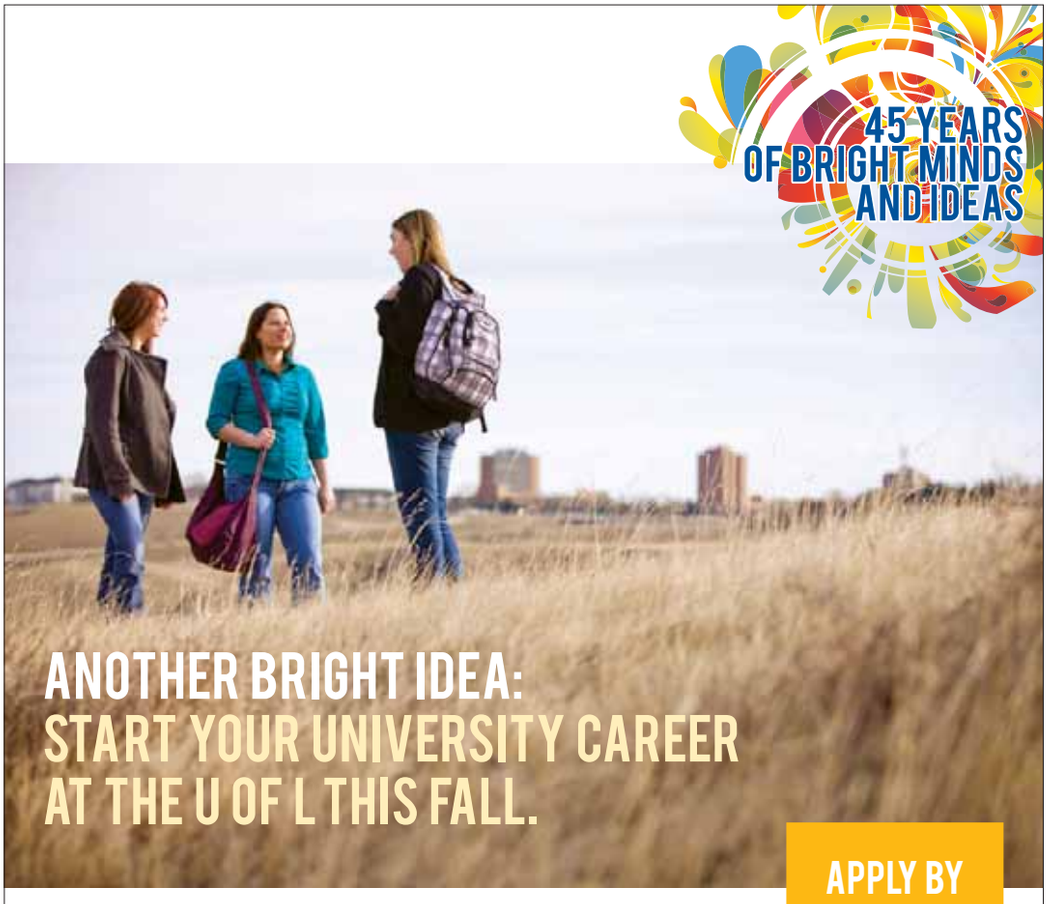

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SPORTS

Stanley Cup final

"It doesn't make it bitter at all. Quite frankly, I think it's more interesting to watch. I am very fond of Richards and Carter. I'd love to see them succeed. As far as Jersey is concerned, they beat us. If they win, at least we know we lost to the best."

Philadelphia Flyers owner Ed Snider, who said Tuesday he'd love to see former Flyers Mike Richards and Jeff Carter win the Stanley Cup with the Los Angeles Kings. Philadelphia general manager Paul Holmgren traded Richards and Carter last summer.

On the web

Manchester United may have lost the English Premier League title to its cross-city rival, but the club still claims to be the most-followed soccer team in the world. Internal research suggests United's popularity has doubled to 659-million followers in the last five years. Scan the code for the story.

Common ground in cup-final showdown

NHL. Devils and Kings took similar paths on journey to Stanley Cup

Mike Richards works out on Tuesday in New Jersey. GETTY IMAGES

Devils head coach Peter DeBoer gives instruction during practice on Tuesday in Newark, N.J. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A great goalie. Depth in front of him. The ability to win on the road. And a respected coach.

Two teams with plenty of similarities drop the puck Wednesday for the Stanley Cup.

The sixth-seeded New Jersey Devils and eighth-seeded Los Angeles Kings face off at the Prudential Center in hockey's finale.

Both teams have already been forged in the cauldron of the playoffs. As lower seeds, they have not had home-ice advantage and had to get here the hard way.

Depth has been key to both.

"I don't think it's an accident that the teams that are rolling four lines and six D (defencemen) are still playing," Devils coach Peter DeBoer said Tuesday.

"I think if you talked to Darryl, I would bet he'd say the same thing. It's been critical. You don't play 20, 25 playoff games and the grind and the emotion and the battle without having depth. You just can't."

Said Kings coach Darryl Sutter: "The way the schedule is and the way the travel is, you don't do it without everybody making some sort of contribution. Not just the minutes played but in performance."

Los Angeles is a mind-boggling 8-0 in the playoffs on the road, where the home team has the last line change. New Jersey is 6-4.

Both teams rely on their goaltenders to keep the opposition honest.

New Jersey looks to career Devil Martin Brodeur, a future Hall of Famer who is still going strong at age 40.

Drew Doughty speaks to media on Tuesday. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Martin Brodeur on Tuesday. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Los Angeles has 26-year-old Jonathan Quick, who leads playoff goalies in goals-against average (1.54) and save percentage (.946). Brodeur's corresponding figures are 2.04 and .923.

Much has been made of the Kings' size, but the league says there's really not much difference between the two. The Devils' average height and weight is six-foot-one and 204 pounds. For the Kings it's six-foot-one and 208.

New Jersey's average age is 30, compared to 26.5 for Los Angeles.

"I think the goalies bring the average up quite a bit," Devils forward Dainius Zubrus said dryly, referencing Brodeur and 39-year-old Johan Hedberg.

The Kings have more Canadians than the Devils (13 to six). THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis

Serena suffers career-first setback

Serena Williams lost in the first round of a major tournament for the first time in her career, falling to Virginie Razzano of France 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-3 Tuesday at the French Open.

The fifth-seeded Williams was two points from victory nine times in the second set, including leading 5-1 in the tiebreaker. But Razzano won six straight points to force a third set, and then took control of the match.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena Williams in Paris on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

NBA

Perfect playoffs continue for Spurs

Tony Parker scored 34 points, Manu Ginobili added 20 and the San Antonio Spurs cruised to a 120-111 win over the Oklahoma City Thunder in Game 2 of the Western Conference finals on Tuesday night.

The Spurs set an NBA record with their 20th consecutive victory bridging the regular season and the playoffs. They came in sharing the longest such streak with the 2000-01 Lakers, who won 19 straight before losing to Philadelphia in the first game of the finals.

Those Lakers went on to win the championship and there's no reason yet to think the Spurs won't do the same.

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MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	29	21	.580	—
Tampa Bay	29	21	.580	—
New York	26	22	.542	2
Toronto	**26**	**24**	**.520**	**3**
Boston	25	24	.510	3½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	28	22	.560	—
Cleveland	27	22	.551	½
Detroit	23	26	.469	4½
Kansas City	20	28	.417	7
Minnesota	17	32	.347	10½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	31	19	.620	—
Los Angeles	25	25	.500	6
Oakland	22	28	.440	9
Seattle	22	30	.423	10

Last night's results
Toronto 8 Baltimore 6
Minnesota 3 Oakland 2
Chicago White Sox 7 Tampa Bay 2
Kansas City 8 Cleveland 2
Boston 6 Detroit 3
Seattle 10 Texas 3
N.Y. Yankees at L.A. Angels
Monday's results
Toronto 6 Baltimore 2
Minnesota 5 Oakland 4
L.A. Angels 9 N.Y. Yankees 8
Texas 4 Seattle 2
Cleveland 8 Kansas City 5
Chicago White Sox 2 Tampa Bay 1
Boston 7 Detroit 4
Today's games
All times Eastern
Kansas City (B.Chen 3-5) at Cleveland (J.Gomez 3-3), 12:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Quintana 1-0) at Tampa Bay (Cobb 2-0), 1:10 p.m.
Oakland (T.Ross 2-5) at Minnesota (Liriano 0-5), 1:10 p.m.
Baltimore (Hammel 6-1) at **Toronto (Morrow 5-3)**, 7:07 p.m.
Detroit (Smyly 2-1) at Boston (Lester 3-4), 7:10 p.m.
Seattle (Beavan 2-4) at Texas (D.Holland 4-3), 8:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Nova 5-2) at L.A. Angels (E.Santana 2-6), 10:05 p.m.
Tomorrow's game
Detroit at Boston, 7:10 p.m.

AL LEADERS

	G	AB	R	H	Avg.
Hamilton Tex	40	153	33	58	.379
Konerko ChiW	39	139	21	51	.367
Jeter NYY	41	175	24	60	.343
Ortiz Bos	42	159	30	53	.333
AJackson Det	36	136	29	45	.331
Andrus Tex	42	167	27	53	.317
ACabrera Cle	35	139	22	43	.309
Butler KC	41	159	18	49	.308
MiCabrera Det	41	166	21	51	.307
AdJones Bal	43	176	32	54	.307

Runs — Kinsler, Texas, 35; Hamilton, Texas, 33; AdJones, Baltimore, 32.
RBI — Hamilton, Texas, 47; **Encarnacion, Toronto, 35;** MiCabrera, Det, 34; ADunn, Chi, 32; Butler, KC, 31.
Hits — Jeter, NY, 60; Hamilton, Texas, 58; AdJones, Baltimore, 54; Pedroia, Bos, 54.
HRs — Hamilton, Tex, 18; ADunn, Chi, 14; AdJones, Bal, 14; **Encarnacion, Tor, 13;** Granderson, NY, 13; **Bautista, Tor, 11;** Reddick, Oak, 11.
Last night's games not included

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	29	20	.592	—
Miami	28	22	.560	1½
New York	28	22	.560	1½
Atlanta	27	24	.529	3
Philadelphia	26	25	.510	4

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	28	21	.571	—
St. Louis	27	23	.540	1½
Pittsburgh	24	25	.490	4
Houston	22	27	.449	6
Milwaukee	20	28	.417	7½
Chicago	17	32	.347	11

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	32	16	.667	—
San Francisco	26	23	.531	6½
Arizona	22	27	.449	10½
Colorado	19	29	.396	13
San Diego	17	34	.333	16½

Yesterday's results
Cincinnati 8 Pittsburgh 1
Miami 3 Washington 1
Atlanta 5 St. Louis 4
Chicago Cubs 5 San Diego 3
N.Y. Mets 6 Philadelphia 3
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers
Arizona at San Francisco
Monday's results
San Francisco 4 Arizona 2
Milwaukee 3 L.A. Dodgers 2
Philadelphia 8 N.Y. Mets 4
St. Louis 8 Atlanta 2
Miami 5 Washington 3
Colorado 9-7 Houston 7-6 (2nd game, 10 inn.)
Pittsburgh 4 Cincinnati 1
Chicago Cubs 11 San Diego 7
Today's games
All times Eastern
San Diego (Bass 2-5) at Chicago Cubs (Dempster 0-3), 2:20 p.m.
Cincinnati (Cueto 5-2) at Pittsburgh (A.J.Burnett 3-2), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Cl.Lee 0-2) at N.Y. Mets (Gee 4-3), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Lohse 5-1) at Atlanta (T.Hudson 3-2), 7:10 p.m.
Washington (Wang 1-0) at Miami (Jo.Johnson 2-3), 7:10 p.m.
Houston (Harrell 4-3) at Colorado (Friedrich 2-1), 8:40 p.m.
Milwaukee (Gallardo 3-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Kershaw 4-2), 10:10 p.m.
Arizona (I.Kennedy 3-5) at San Francisco (Lincecum 2-5), 10:15 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Houston at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

NL LEADERS

	G	AB	R	H	Avg.
DWright NYM	45	161	32	60	.373
MeCabrera SF	49	201	36	74	.368
Ruiz Phi	44	142	23	52	.366
Lucroy Mil	43	139	17	48	.345
Furcal StL	47	188	35	64	.340
McCutchen Pit	45	165	28	56	.339
Prado Atl	48	184	30	60	.326
Votto Cin	48	163	29	53	.325
YMolina StL	44	165	24	53	.321
Infante Mia	42	156	26	50	.321

Runs — CGonzalez, Col, 38; MeCabrera, SF, 36; Furcal, StL, 35; Pence, Phil, 35; Uggla, Atl, 34; Bourn, Atl, 33; Braun, Milw, 33.
RBI — Ethier, LA, 42; Beltran, StL, 41; CGonzalez, Col, 37; Stanton, Miami, 36; LaRoche, Wash, 35; Braun, Milw, 34; Freese, StL, 33.
Yesterday's games not included

BLUE JAYS 8, ORIOLES 6

Baltimore	ab	r	h	bi	Toronto	ab	r	h	bi
Andino 2b	5	0	1	0	KJhnsn 2b	5	0	0	0
Hardy ss	5	1	1	0	YEscor ss	5	0	0	1
Markks rf	5	0	1	0	Bautist rf	3	1	1	0
AdJons cf	3	3	3	3	Encrnc dh	3	1	0	0
Wieters c	1	0	0	0	Rasms cf	4	1	1	0
RPauln c	3	1	1	0	Arencii c	3	1	0	0
MrRynl 1b	4	0	1	1	Lawrie 3b	4	3	3	3
C.Davis dh	5	1	3	2	Cooper 1b	4	1	2	1
Betemt lf-3b	5	0	0	0	RDavis lf	4	0	3	2
Tollesn 3b	3	0	1	0					
EnChvz ph-lf	1	0	0	0					
Totals	**40**	**6**	**12**	**6**	**Totals**		**35**	**8**	**10**	**7**

Baltimore	010 003 002 —6
Toronto	002 330 00x —8

E—Betemit (8), Ad.Jones (3), Arrieta (3), Rasmus (2). LOB—Baltimore 11, Toronto 6. 2B—Markakis (13), R.Paulino (2), Bautista (6), Rasmus (10), Lawrie (6). HR—Ad.Jones 2 (16), C.Davis (9). SB—En.Chavez (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Baltimore						
Arrieta L,2-6	4 1-3	6	7	6	3	5
Mi.Gonzalez	3 1-3	4	1	1	0	5
Ayala	1-3	0	0	0	0	0
Toronto						
R.Romero W,6-1	6	6	4	4	1	7
Frasor	1	2	0	0	1	2
Oliver	1-3	2	0	0	0	1
Cordero H,5	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
Janssen	1	2	2	2	1	0

HBP—by R.Romero (Wieters).
T—3:11. A—17,352 (49,260).

BLUE JAYS STATISTICS

BATTERS	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
Cooper	14	2	4	0	1	.286
Encarnacion	190	27	52	16	41	.274
Lawrie	176	20	48	3	17	.273
Johnson	175	31	46	9	26	.263
Escobar	195	28	51	2	15	.262
Arencibia	147	20	36	9	29	.245
Thames	148	17	36	3	11	.243
Rasmus	167	18	39	5	20	.234
Bautista	183	31	41	12	32	.224
Davis	59	17	13	2	8	.220
Francisco	34	3	7	0	0	.206
Vizquel	34	4	7	0	2	.206
Mathis	36	7	7	2	5	.194

PITCHERS	W	L	SV	IP	SO	ERA
Mathis	0	0	0	1.0	0	0.00
Oliver	0	2	0	17.1	16	1.56
Perez	2	1	0	25.2	26	2.45
Janssen	1	1	4	18.2	18	2.89
Morrow	5	3	0	62.1	54	3.47
Alvarez	3	4	0	65.2	19	3.56
Romero	5	1	0	65.1	49	3.86
Drabek	4	5	0	55.1	42	4.55
Villanueva	0	0	0	21.1	24	4.64
Hutchison	4	2	0	44.2	36	4.84
Frasor	0	1	0	18.0	22	5.00
Chavez	0	0	0	5.0	7	5.40
Cordero	1	2	2	19.0	15	6.63
Santos	0	1	2	5.0	4	9.00

Last night's game not included

HOCKEY

AHL PLAYOFFS

CALDER CUP FINAL

(Best-of-7 series)
NORFOLK VS. TORONTO
Friday's game
Toronto at Norfolk, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's game
Toronto at Norfolk, 7:15 p.m.
Thursday, June 7
Norfolk at **Toronto**, 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 9
Norfolk at **Toronto**, 3 p.m.

NHL PLAYOFFS

STANLEY CUP FINAL

(Best-of-7 series)
Tonight's game
All times Eastern
Los Angeles at New Jersey, 8 p.m.
Saturday's game
Los Angeles at New Jersey, 8 p.m.
Monday, June 4
New Jersey at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 6
New Jersey at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 9
x-Los Angeles at New Jersey, 8 p.m.
Monday, June 11
x-New Jersey at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 13
x-Los Angeles at New Jersey, 8 p.m.
x — if necessary.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Kovalchuk, NJ	7	11	18
Giroux, Pha	8	9	17
D.Brown, LA	7	9	16
Kopitar, LA	6	9	15
B.Richards, NYR	6	9	15
Parise, NJ	7	7	14
Briere, Pha	8	5	13
Zajac, NJ	7	5	12
Girardi, NYR	3	9	12
Gaborik, NYR	5	6	11
M.Richards, LA	4	7	11
Henrique, NJ	3	8	11
Salvador, NJ	3	8	11
J.Williams, LA	2	9	11
Callahan, NYR	6	4	10
McDonald, StL	5	5	10
Vermette, Phx	5	5	10
Anisimov, NYR	3	7	10
Clarkson, NJ	3	7	10
Penner, LA	3	7	10
Del Zotto, NYR	2	8	10
Doughty, LA	2	8	10
Voracek, Pha	2	8	10
J.Staal, Pgh	6	3	9
Doan, Phx	5	4	9
Ovechkin, Wash	5	4	9
J.Carter, LA	4	5	9
B.Schenn, Pha	3	6	9
Zubrus, NJ	3	6	9
Stepan, NYR	1	8	9
Yandle, Phx	1	8	9
Boedker, Phx	4	4	8
Crosby, Pgh	3	5	8
Hartnell, Pha	3	5	8
Malkin, Pgh	3	5	8
Backstrom, Wash	2	6	8
Klesla, Phx	2	6	8
Jagr, Pha	1	7	8
Zidlicky, NJ	1	7	8
Kreider, NYR	5	2	7
Chimera, Wash	4	3	7
Berglund, StL	3	4	7
Gionta, NJ	3	4	7
Fedotenko, NYR	2	5	7
Laich, Wash	2	5	7
Whitney, Phx	2	5	7
Langkow, Phx	1	6	7
R.Carter, NJ	4	2	6
Elias, NJ	4	2	6
Pyatt, Phx	4	2	6
Talbot, Pha	4	2	6
Bergenheim, Fla	3	3	6
B.Boyle, NYR	3	3	6
Hanzal, Phx	3	3	6
Kennedy, Pgh	3	3	6
Legwand, Nash	3	3	6
M.Staal, NYR	3	3	6
Stralman, NYR	3	3	6
S.Bernier, NJ	2	4	6
Carle, Pha	2	4	6
Dupuis, Pgh	2	4	6
Kunitz, Pgh	2	4	6

TENNIS

ATP-WTA

FRENCH OPEN

At Paris
Men's Singles — First Round
Rafael Nadal (2), Spain, def. Simone Bolelli, Italy, 6-2, 6-2, 6-1.
Andy Murray (4), Britain, def. Tatsuma Ito, Japan, 6-1, 7-5, 6-0.
David Ferrer (6), Spain, def. Lukas Lacko, Slovakia, 6-3, 6-4, 6-1.
Janko Tipsarevic (8), Serbia, def. Sam Querrey, United States, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Nicolas Almagro (12), Spain, def. Paolo Lorenzi, Italy, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4.
Juan Monaco (13), Argentina, def. Guillaume Rufin, France, 6-2, 2-6, 6-2, 7-6 (3).
Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukr., def. Alexandr Dolgopolov (16), Ukr., 6-7 (4), 6-4, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-3.
Richard Gasquet (17), France, def. Jurgen Zopp, Estonia, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (4).
Mikhail Youzhny (27), Russia, def. James Blake, United States, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2.
Julien Benneteau (29), France, def. Mischa Zverev, Germany, 6-2, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4.
Florian Mayer (32), Germany, def. Daniel Gimeno-Traver, Spain, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.
Dmitry Tursunov, Russia, def. Go Soeda, Japan, 6-1, 6-4, 6-4.
Jeremy Chardy, France, def. Yen-hsun Lu, Taiwan, 6-4, 6-1, 6-7 (3), 3-6, 11-9.
Grigor Dimitrov, Bulgaria, def. Donald Young, United States, 7-6 (3), 6-1, 6-1.
Eduardo Schwank, Argentina, def. Ivo Karlovic, Croatia, 6-4, 6-0, 6-3.
Tommy Haas, Germany, def. Filippo Volandri, Italy, 6-3, 0-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Jarkko Nieminen, Finland, def. Igor Andreev, Russia, 3-6, 6-2, 2-1, retired.
Benoit Paire, France, def. Albert Ramos, Spain, 7-6 (3), 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-3.
Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, def. Igor Kunitsyn, Russia, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2.
Women's Singles — First Round
Maria Sharapova (2), Russia, def. Alexandra Cadantu, Romania, 6-0, 6-0.
Petra Kvitova (4), Czech Republic, def. Ashleigh Barty, Australia, 6-1, 6-2.
Virginie Razzano, France, def. Serena Williams (5), United States, 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-3.
Caroline Wozniacki (9), Denmark, def. Eleni Daniilidou, Greece, 6-0, 6-1.
Francesca Schiavone (14), Italy, def. Kimiko Date-Krumm, Japan, 6-3, 6-1.
Maria Kirilenko (16), Russia, def. Victoria Larriere, France, 6-1, 6-2.
Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (22), Russia, def. Greta Arn, Hungary, 6-4, 6-4.
Kaia Kanepi (23), Estonia, def. Alexandra Panova, Russia, 6-3, 6-3.
Julia Goerges (25), Germany, def. Lucie Hradecka, Czech Republic, 7-6 (1), 6-4.
Peng Shuai (28), China, def. Tamira Paszek, Austria, 6-4, 6-3.
Heather Watson, Britain, def. Elena Vesnina, Russia, 6-2, 6-4.
Klara Zakopalova, Czech Republic, def. Lesia Tsurenko, Ukraine, 6-2, 6-1.
Ayumi Morita, Japan, def. Polona Hercog, Slovenia, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.
Urszula Radwanska, Poland, def. Pauline Parmentier, France, 6-4, 6-3.
Lourdes Dominguez Lino, Spain, def. Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, 7-5, 7-5.
Arantxa Rus, Netherlands, def. Jamie Hampton, United States, 6-4, 4-3, retired.
Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, def. Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, 3-6, 6-0, 6-3.
Melinda Czink, Hungary, def. Anne Keothavong, Britain, 6-1, 6-2.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
D.C.	15	8	4	3	28	19	27
New York	13	8	3	3	26	18	26
Kansas City	12	8	3	1	17	10	25
Chicago	12	5	4	3	15	15	18
Columbus	12	5	4	3	13	13	18
Houston	11	4	3	4	12	12	16
New England	12	4	7	1	16	18	13
Montreal	13	3	7	3	15	21	12
Philadelphia	11	2	7	2	8	14	8
Toronto	10	1	9	0	8	21	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Salt Lake	14	9	3	2	22	14	29
San Jose	14	8	3	3	27	17	27
Seattle	13	7	3	3	16	9	24
Vancouver	12	5	3	4	13	14	19
Colorado	13	6	6	1	20	18	19
Chivas USA	13	4	6	3	9	14	15
Portland	12	3	5	4	12	15	13
Dallas	15	3	8	4	15	24	13
Los Angeles	13	3	8	2	15	21	11

Saturday's game
All times Eastern
Chicago at New England, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's game
Houston at Vancouver, 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 16
Dallas at Houston, 5 p.m.
Colorado at Vancouver, 7 p.m.
D.C. at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Seattle at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Columbus at New England, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Salt Lake at Chivas USA, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 17
New York at Chicago, 5 p.m.
Portland at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.

NBA PLAYOFFS

CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-7 series)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

MIAMI (2) VS. BOSTON (4)
(Miami leads 1-0)
Monday's result
Miami 93 Boston 79
Tonight's game
All times Eastern
Boston at Miami, 8:30 p.m.
Friday's game
Miami at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday's game
Miami at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 5
x-Boston at Miami, 8:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 7
x-Miami at Boston, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 9
x-Boston at Miami, 8:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SAN ANTONIO (1) V. OKLAHOMA CITY (2)
(San Antonio leads 2-0)
Last night's result
San Antonio 120 Oklahoma City 111
Tomorrow's game
San Antonio at Oklahoma City, 9 p.m.
Saturday's game
San Antonio at Oklahoma City, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 9 p.m.
Wednesday, June 6
x-San Antonio at Oklahoma City, 9 p.m.
Friday, June 8
x-Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 9 p.m.
x — if necessary.

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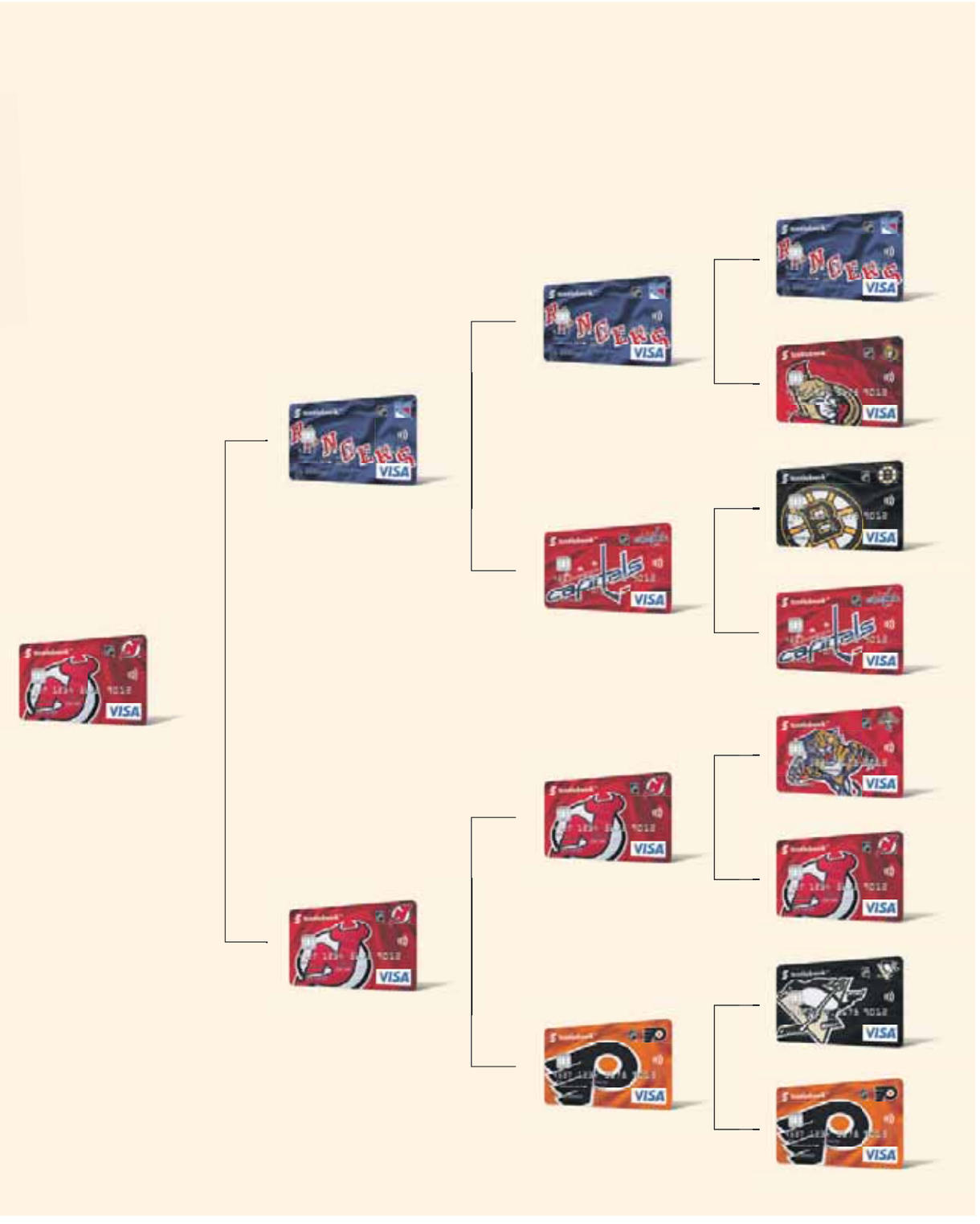

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Acura bucks the engine trend

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

AWD

The RDX abandons Acura's very effective Super Handling All Wheel Drive (SH-AWD). However, the replacement system, called AWD with Intelligent Control, appears to have its own merits, which include sending 25 per cent of the available torque to the rear wheels when accelerating from a stop.

2013 Acura RDX

- **Type.** Four-door, all-wheel-drive luxury-compact wagon.
- **Engine (hp):** 3.5-litre SOHC V6 (273).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 10.7/7.3.
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** $42,900.

Beefed-up engine

A 3.5-litre V6 replaces the turbo-charged 2.3-litre four-cylinder, a move that appears to be in sharp contrast to other automakers — such as Ford — which are replacing larger engines with smaller turbo-charged powerplants that supposedly get better fuel economy.

But check this out. The RDX's V6 makes 273 horse power and 251 pound-feet of torque, compared to 240 horses and 260 pound-feet of torque for the 2.3. Most importantly, the RDX achieves a better fuel-consumption rating than the outgoing model.

How is this possible?

A six-speed automatic transmission — one more gear than used on the turbo four — helps improve the ratings, but so do other fuel-conserving innovations.

There's low-viscosity engine and transmission oil, a special friction-reducing coating for the pistons and Variable Cylinder Management that allows the engine to operate with two or three of its six cylinders (depending on the load) shut down.

Acura says the RDX also has improved aerodynamics, fuel-saving electric power steering pump and low-rolling-resistance tires.

Review. More pistons as well as better fuel economy? What does the new RDX know that we don't?

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

With the entire automotive world dropping pistons to add fuel economy — and even bragging about it — there's this little twist: the 2013 Acura RDX is adding fuel economy by adding pistons.

Yes, the whole universe is suddenly out of whack and it begs the question, what does Honda know that the rest of the world doesn't. Well, we're in Arizona to find out.

The RDX brand has been around since the 2007 model year as a rival to the BMW X3, Audi Q5, Cadillac SRX, Mercedes-Benz GLK and other premium-priced five-passenger wagons.

Changes for the 2010 model year gave it a look that resembled the larger MDX, which is an approach that has clearly spilled over into the new RDX.

The aggressively arched fenders, redesigned nose-piece and artfully reshaped roofline convey a sense of increased proportions, which is an illusion considering that most key dimensions — length, width, height and cargo volume — vary only slightly from the original.

With an on-the-road starting price of $42,900, the poised and proficient RDX now looks and acts like a more upscale travelling companion that effectively coddles its occupants, should take fewer fuel stops and generally behaves more resolutely when the go pedal is pushed.

Acura, if more power and better fuel economy was intended to be a secret, we're happy to blow your cover.

5 DRIVE

Top Gear

Flip your Jeep lid

Talk to any owner about their Jeep Wrangler and they'll wax poetic about their favourite off-roader. But ask them about removing and reinstalling the Jeep's canvas top and the air is likely to turn blue. In short, it's not much fun wrestling with the various snaps, zippers, hooks and other attachments. A solution is in hand in the form of the power-operated MyTop from Roadwire. The company states that its lid will automatically fold back and reverse itself in about six seconds. The frame is made of aircraft-grade aluminum (good aluminum), while the electric motors used in the folding/refolding process are of the same design used to operate the canopies of fighter jets. MyTop is priced at $4,300 US, plus installation. More info is available at roadwire.com. WHEELBASE

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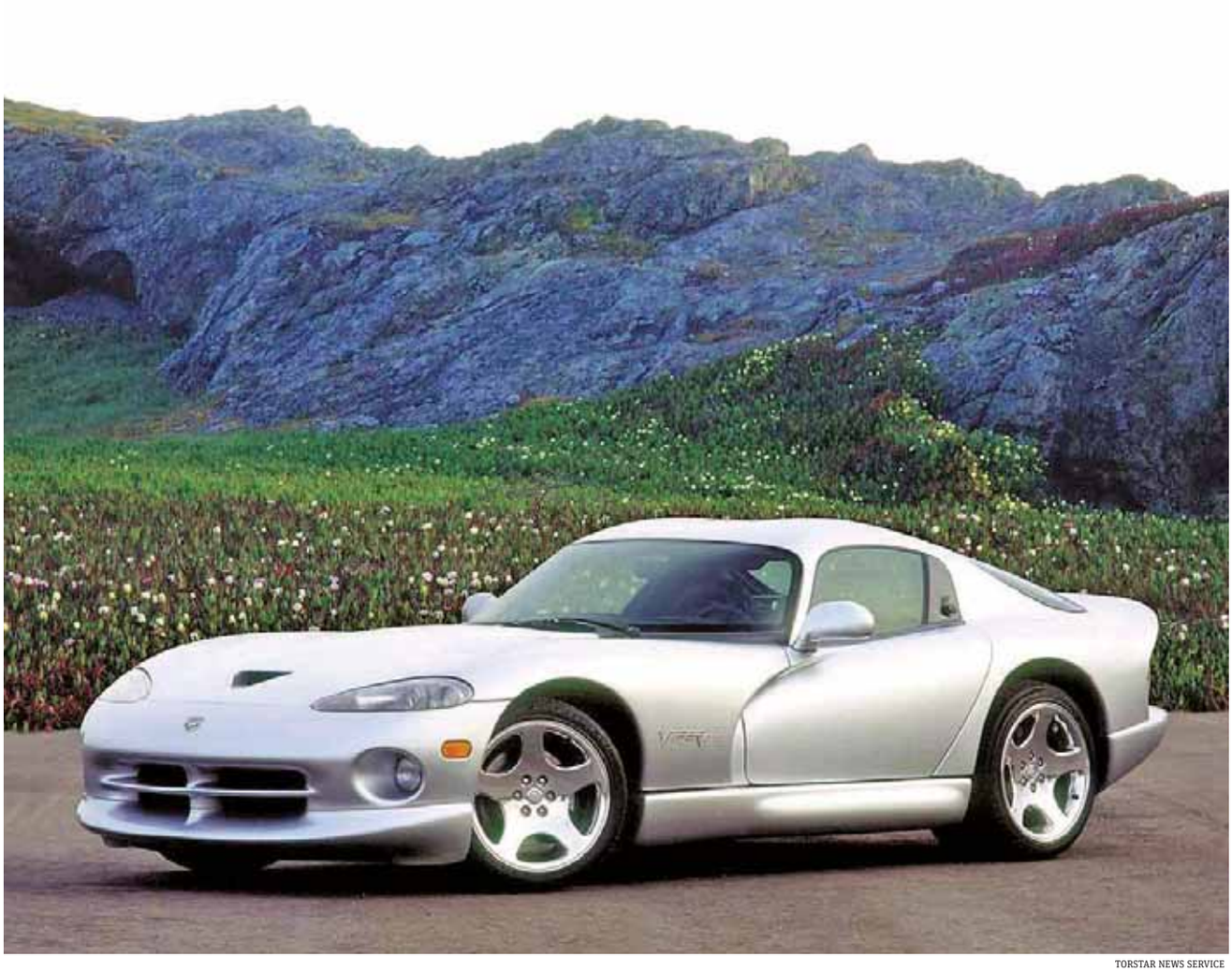
Used Viper will get you pure performance

Second Gear.
1992 to 2002
Dodge Viper

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

Original Dodge Viper models were often bought as a novel weekend car, a racing machine, or to own a bit of history and nostalgia. All models possess a monstrous 10-cylinder engine, two seats and rear-wheel drive.

Feature content was modest, though performance was the unquestioned focus of this machine. Coupe and convertible variants were available in GTS and RT/10 designations, respectively.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Common Issues

Have your potential used Viper checked for oil leaks from the valve covers and oil pan gasket. A compression test is also advisable, as is a check of the oil and coolant condition, which could reveal an issue with the head-gasket. This issue seemed to affect mainly earlier models.

On a test-drive, "feel" the transmission for signs of clutch slippage, grinding or hard shifting. Though the gearbox is said to be reliable, abusive driving can shorten its life.

Note that some models suffered from a rear differential which could become separated from its bracket, and/or a power steering rack that could pull away from the front frame. A free recall and repair kit addresses these problems. Your local Dodge dealer has the scoop.

Shoppers are also advised to check the condition of the brakes and tires.

Engine

All models in this generation have an 8-litre V10 with 400 horsepower on early models, and 450 horsepower after 1996. A six-speed manual was the only transmission offered.

What Owners Like

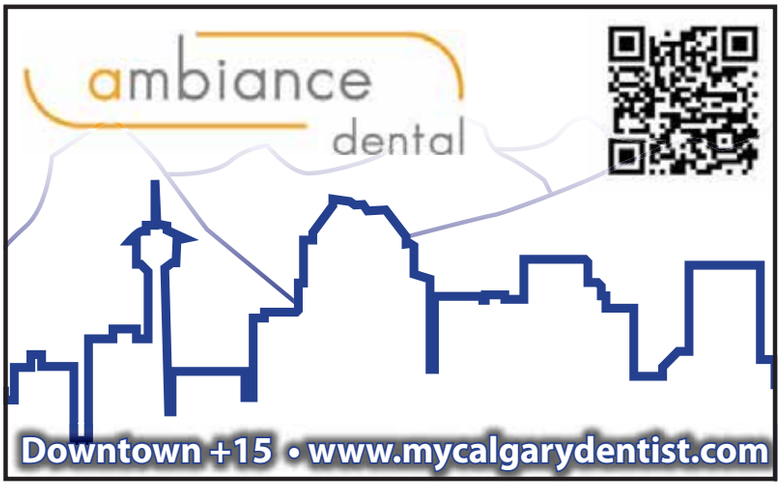
Performance, style, excess and exclusivity were the big draws to the Viper. As a new model, it offered the performance to crush cars costing several times more. Extreme performance driving pleasure is enjoyed by Viper owners.

What Owners Dislike

Limited storage, limited shoulder and legroom and gas mileage are the most common complaints. Heat from the engine can also "cook" the driver's feet on long trips.

Verdict

The Viper was loved mainly for its purely insane performance and the instant recognition of passers-by. It's not a car for the faint of heart — though it will appeal to those after all-out firepower ahead of creature-comforts.



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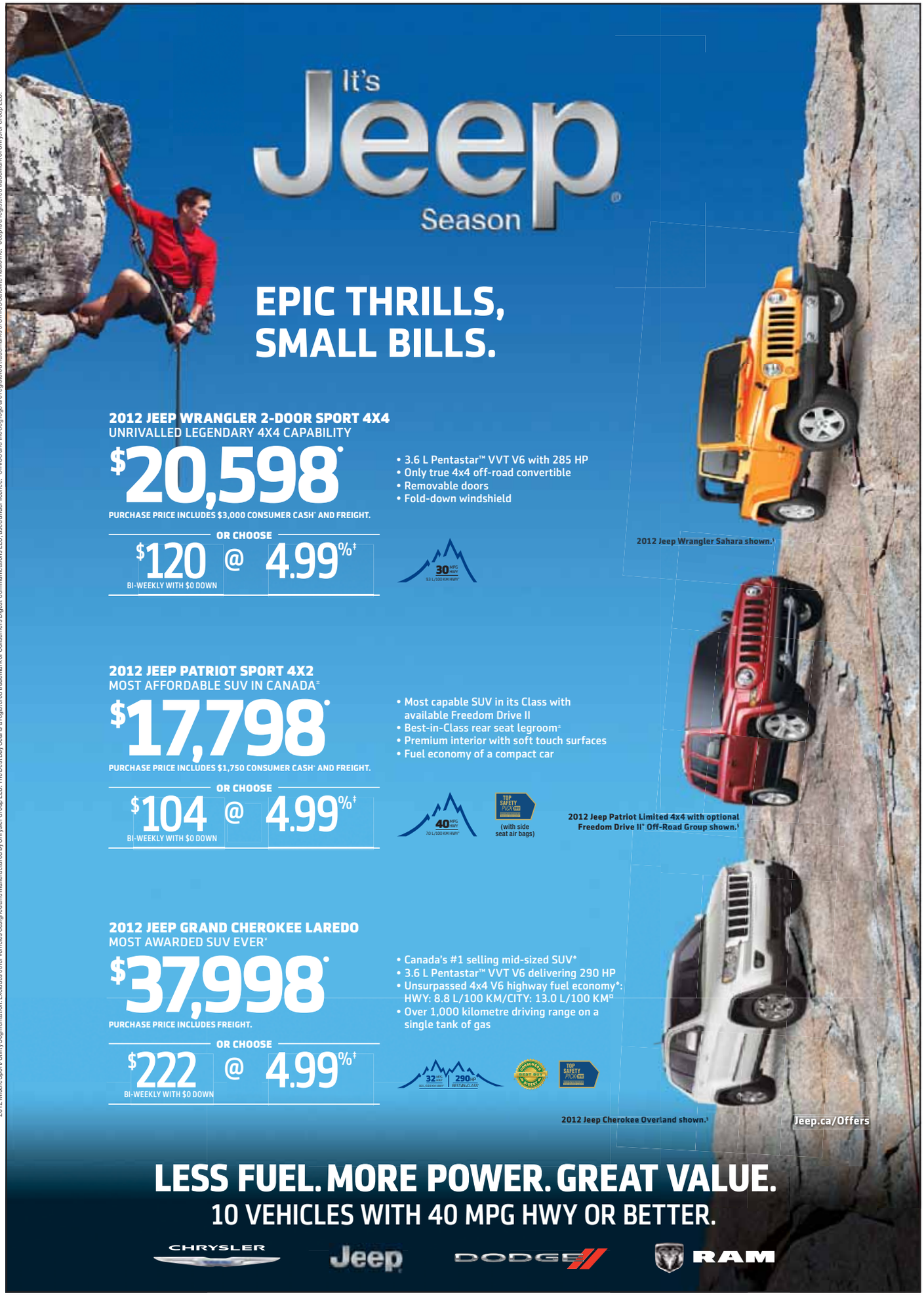
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Less Fuel. More Power. Great Value is a comparison between the 2012 and the 2011 Chrysler Canada product lineups. 40 MPG or greater claim based on 2012 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption estimates. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. See dealer for additional EnerGuide details. Wise customers read the fine print: •, †, ‡, § The It's Jeep Season Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers on or after May 1, 2012. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating dealers for complete details and conditions. •$20,598 Purchase Price applies to 2012 Jeep Wrangler Sport (23B+4XA) only and includes $3,000 Consumer Cash Discount. $17,798 Purchase Price applies to 2012 Jeep Patriot Sport (25D+C7) only and includes $1,750 Consumer Cash Discount. $37,998 Purchase Price applies to 2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo (26E) only. Pricing includes freight ($1,400–$1,500) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. See participating dealers for complete details. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on select new 2012 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-dealer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your dealer for complete details. ‡4.99% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2012 Jeep Wrangler (23B+4XA)/2012 Jeep Patriot (25D+C7)/2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee (26E) with a Purchase Price of $20,598/$17,798/$37,998 (including applicable Consumer Cash Discount) financed at 4.99% over 96 months with $0 down payment equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $120/$104/$222 with a cost of borrowing of $4,404/$3,805/$8,124 and a total obligation of $25,002/$21,603/$46,122. Pricing includes freight ($1,400–$1,500) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable fees and taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. ¥Based on automotive awards for SUVs 1974 to 2011. ±Based on *Ward's* 2012 Middle Sport/Utility Vehicle Segmentation. ¤Based on 2012 EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide ratings published by Natural Resources Canada. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel economy will vary based on driving habits and other factors. 2012 Jeep Wrangler – Hwy: 9.3 L/100 KM (30 MPG) and City: 12.7 L/100 KM (22 MPG). 2012 Jeep Patriot 4X2 – Hwy: 7.0 L/100 KM (39 MPG) and City: 9.0 L/100 KM (31 MPG). 2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee – Hwy 8.8 L/100 KM (32 MPG) and City: 13.0 L/100 KM (22 MPG). ±±Based on *Ward's* 2012 Middle Sport/Utility Segmentation. Excludes other vehicles designed and manufactured by Chrysler Group LLC. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under licence. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE GREAT OFFERS

Compact pickups at a crossroads

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The next wave of compact pickups will probably include some Chinese models. Consider Great Wall Motor's Steed model, introduced just this month to the U.K. market. CONTRIBUTED

An interesting period is developing for fans of compact pickup trucks. The old guard is going or gone, and the new guard is nowhere in sight.

We'll soon lose the GM twins (Chevrolet Colorado/GMC Canyon). Last year we lost Ford Ranger and Dodge Dakota. The year prior we lost Mazda B-Series.

Replacements?

Ford developed a new Ranger for other markets but we're not getting it.

There is a new Chevrolet Colorado coming, but no time frame and not before it lands in priority compact truck markets like Thailand, Australia and Brazil.

A new Dodge Dakota is coming too, but it will have to be invented first, and who knows when and how that will happen within the Chrysler/Fiat framework.

Is it just me, or does it seem like the automakers don't quite have their heart into giving North Americans an up-to-date, "compact" pickup, which is not too pricey, and a legitimate alternative to the full-size pickup?

"The compact truck market is not dead, just ignored by the American marketplace," says Victor Tsai, a devoted and long-time compact truck buyer. For his landscaping business in Toronto, he has employed a long succession of compact rides, such as Jeep Comanche, Dodge Dakota, and Toyota Tacoma.

He feels compact trucks suffer in this market because North America is the home and sole marketplace of the full-size pickup. As such, the automakers are obsessed with selling and developing these trucks on this continent. Nowhere else does the compact truck face such a formidable competitor.

At the same time, automakers have been obsessed with making their North American compacts in the mould of their full-size trucks, loading them up with lots of power, features, macho styling, etc. Net result: they're not much different or cheaper than their full-size brethren.

Howard Elmer is a colleague of mine who specializes in all things truck. He notes that inexpensive trucks were a big part of how the Japanese automakers got a foothold in North America in the 1970s.

"Their product back then was small, but also fuel efficient, rugged, and very, very cheap in comparison (to full-size trucks). People bought them not necessarily because they were small, but because the price made sense."

Today, the vast majority of buyers for import compact trucks are younger people who use them for specific sports or leisure activities, and want them outfitted accordingly, and with lots of comfort features.

Elmer adds that in the era when compacts were cheaper, they were often employed for all sorts of uses and by all sorts of demographics — entry-level vehicle, second family vehicle, commuter, retirement ride for full-size pickup types who still wanted to stay in the truck lifestyle, work truck, sport truck, etc.

Could the next wave of compact trucks coming to North America be more like the earlier, "cheap and cheerful" wave, through lighter and more car-like unibody designs based on global platforms? And could we see diesel powertrains in these compact trucks? Chrysler has hinted as much, and GM's new truck in Thailand is sporting a brand-new diesel engine that looks like it could be easily certified for this continent.

But don't get your hopes up. Elmer notes that just because automakers have appealing products and/or powertrains in some markets, doesn't mean that they can be automatically "plopped" into ours.

However, if GM, Ford, Chrysler, Toyota, etc., aren't prepared to give us cheap, little compacts, it might not matter.

"I think the Chinese are coming," says Elmer. "It's just a matter of time."

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See, driving stick isn't that hard

Toronto-born racecar driver Daniel Morad teaches the art of driving a manual transmission at the Honda Manual Driver Event in Toronto last week. The event was put on by the automaker to promote the "driving connection" and experience what a manual transmission provides and the only way to drive its performance-inspired Civic Si. HONDA CANADA

Top Gear

Rolling into the past

If improperly selected, a set of aftermarket wheels can really ruin the look and value of a classic car. But what choice do you have when you want the factory look that requires 17-inch and larger wheels? For more than 30 years, Specialty Wheel has produced original-look wheels for older Fords, Chevys, Buicks, Cadillacs and various Dodge/Plymouth/Chrysler cars. And for low-profile tires, many of these recreations are available in sizes that are larger than original. Not only does the company make wheels, but it can also supply customers with the correct-looking centre caps, trim rings and lug nuts. Prices vary according to size and complexity, but start in the $100 US range for a basic early Camaro wheel shown here, up to more than $500 US for a Cadillac wire wheel. specialtywheel.com.

It's a breeze for dogs

Chances are that the dog likes to stick its head out the window to take in some fresh air and other intriguing scents. However that isn't necessarily the safest thing for your pet, whether you're on the move or parked. The BreezeGuard from Muttmanagers LLC will keep your dog inside the vehicle with a protective steel mesh screen that securely attaches inside the doorframe. Best of all, you can still roll your windows up and down with the BreezeGuard in place. A single BreezeGuard costs $115 US, but for maximum cross-ventilation, a set of two is available for $199 US. The product is available for most popular makes and models, but the company can produce a custom-fitted unit(s) on request. Get all the details at muttmanagers.com. **WHEELBASE**

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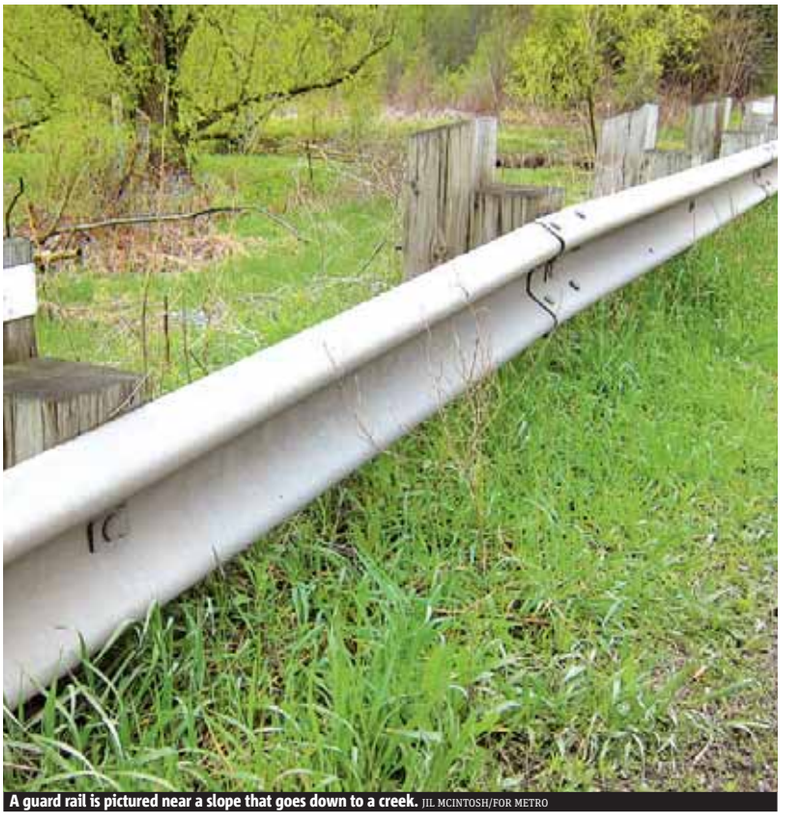


A guard rail is pictured near a slope that goes down to a creek. JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

High-technology barriers improve highway safety

Driving Force. There are plenty of blockades on the road, each of which is designed for a specific purpose

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

As cars become safer, so do the roads. You may think a guardrail is just a piece of steel on the side of the highway, but it's actually part of a comprehensive safety system.

"By definition, a barrier system is a device which provides a physical obstacle through which an errant vehicle would not normally penetrate or vault over," says Bob Nichols, spokesperson for Ontario's Ministry of Transportation. "It is intended to contain or redirect an errant vehicle of a particular size range, at a given speed and angle of impact."

Guardrails and barriers aren't placed randomly. Instead, they're generally installed where it would do more damage for a vehicle to run off the road than to hit the guardrail. It's most desirable to keep the roadside clear, so that most drivers who lose control can either bring the vehicle back or come to a safe stop. But if the side of the road contains unyielding obstacles, such as bridge piers or overhead sign posts, or has a steep slope, a barrier is considered.

Up until the late 1980s, most guardrail ends sloped down into the ground — known as "buried end treatment" in the trade. Today, they mostly have impact-absorbing ends, properly known as steel beam energy attenuating terminals. These have a rectangular steel impact head and either breakaway steel or wooden support posts. When a vehicle runs into it, the impact head is forced back onto the steel rails, which bend and flatten to absorb the impact of the crash and reduce its severity.

Concrete barriers on the highway are often called "Jersey Barriers" by drivers, but they're more likely to be a newer design called the "F-Shape." Depending on how hard a vehicle hits, either the tires or the bumper will slide along the barrier's slope and then be redirected back into the lane. The barrier doesn't have to be tall, because the shape does the trick.

And those barrels that you often see at off-ramps? That's a Connecticut Impact Attenuation System, consisting of thin-walled steel cylinders bolted together. They crush when a vehicle crashes into them to absorb the impact, and some of the barrels contain steel straps and a compression pipe that redirect the vehicle away from greater danger.

Talking barriers

- Most roadside barriers in North America have been crash-tested to national standards, some with tractor-trailers.
- The concrete walls known as "Jersey Barriers" got their name because they were first installed in New Jersey in the 1960s.

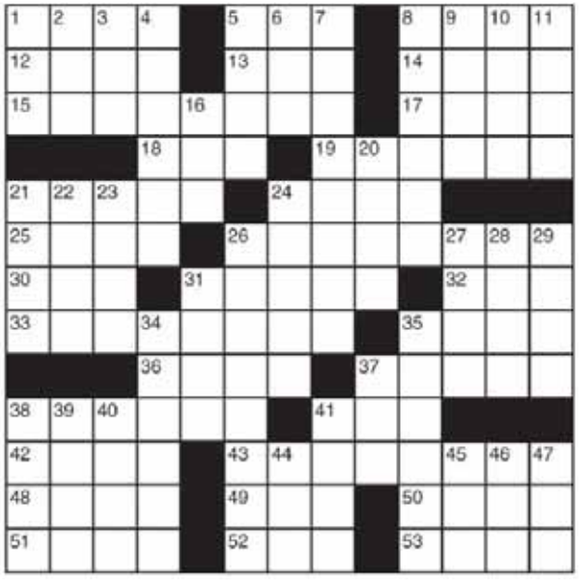
Crossword

Across

1 Distortion in wood
5 $ dispenser
8 Omit
12 Exchange premium
13 Skater Babilonia
14 Domini preceder
15 Critical
17 Defeat
18 Pump up the volume
19 Carelessness?
21 Necklace fastener
24 In-box filler
25 Impetuous
26 Whims
30 Eggs
31 "Be-Bop- —"
32 Actor Holbrook
33 Maximum contents
35 Golf warning
36 Sea eagle
37 Healthy
38 Malay Archipelago sultanate
41 Tackle moguls
42 Theater box
43 South American rodent
48 — podrida
49 Get — for effort
50 Told tales
51 Ottoman governors
52 Torched
53 Therefore

Down

1 Servicewoman
2 Khan title
3 Wardrobe malfunction
4 Fertilizer ingredient
5 On
6 Greek cross
7 Use wrongly
8 Deli meat
9 Make a cardigan
10 Part of the foot
11 Slow
16 Little devil
20 Brazilian river
21 Gator's kin
22 Volcanic outflow
23 Promptly, on a memo
24 Fry lightly
26 Cold and impersonal
27 — En-lai
28 Make
29 Coaster
31 Farm fraction
34 Virgilian hero
35 Weakness
37 Wild blue yonder
38 Amorphous mass
39 Portrayal
40 Unsightly
41 Quarrel
44 Blackbird
45 Melody
46 Rule, for short
47 Commotion



Sudoku

5			4		2			
2	7						3	8
	1			7		6		
	5		2	8				3
		7				8		
8				4	6		2	
		6		1			8	
3	4						7	9
			7		5			4

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	9	7	2	6	5	1	4	3
2	4	6	3	1	7	5	9	8
5	1	3	8	9	4	7	2	6
7	2	8	9	5	1	6	3	4
6	5	9	4	3	8	2	1	7
1	3	4	6	7	2	9	8	5
9	7	1	5	8	3	4	6	2
4	8	5	1	2	6	3	7	9
3	6	2	7	4	9	8	5	1

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

QNAFX N ORQ JXTRJJI VZGXZXG PV DXXE GZI, N RS PRDNAT ERZP NA R OXPAXQQ EZVPXFPNVA EZVTZRS.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A LANDSCAPE GARDENER IS COMPLETELY TIRED AND READY FOR BED, YOU MIGHT SAY HE'S BUSHED.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals N

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. There may be a lot to do but you will achieve more if you slow down and do one vital thing really well.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Your financial position may not be as good as it could be, but neither is it giving serious cause for concern. If you worry, you'll make things worse.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. You know what you want and you know where and how to get it, so seize the moment.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Cosmic activity in the most sensitive area of your chart makes it easy to reach down into your subconscious and find out what makes you tick.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Reaching out to those who share your beliefs could put you in touch with some interesting people.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Today you can and you should make a good impression on those who can influence the course of your career.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. With the Sun, Mercury and Venus all moving through one of the most dynamic areas of your chart, much can be achieved. Aim high.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You may feel somewhat vulnerable right now but it's nothing to worry about. If you do, you could end up worrying yourself into a corner.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. It may seem as if you are doing all the giving while others are doing all the taking, but it's for a reason.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. You may find it hard to slow down today but you must. Cosmic activity in the wellbeing area of your chart urges you to be kind to yourself.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Your confidence will surge over the next 24 hours and soon you will be doing what others say is impossible.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Use emotions over logic today. If you appeal to someone's sense of sympathy or passion, you will win them over with ease. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption Contest

"I'm gonna bed it like Babar!" - George

STEVE PARSONS/PA WIRE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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